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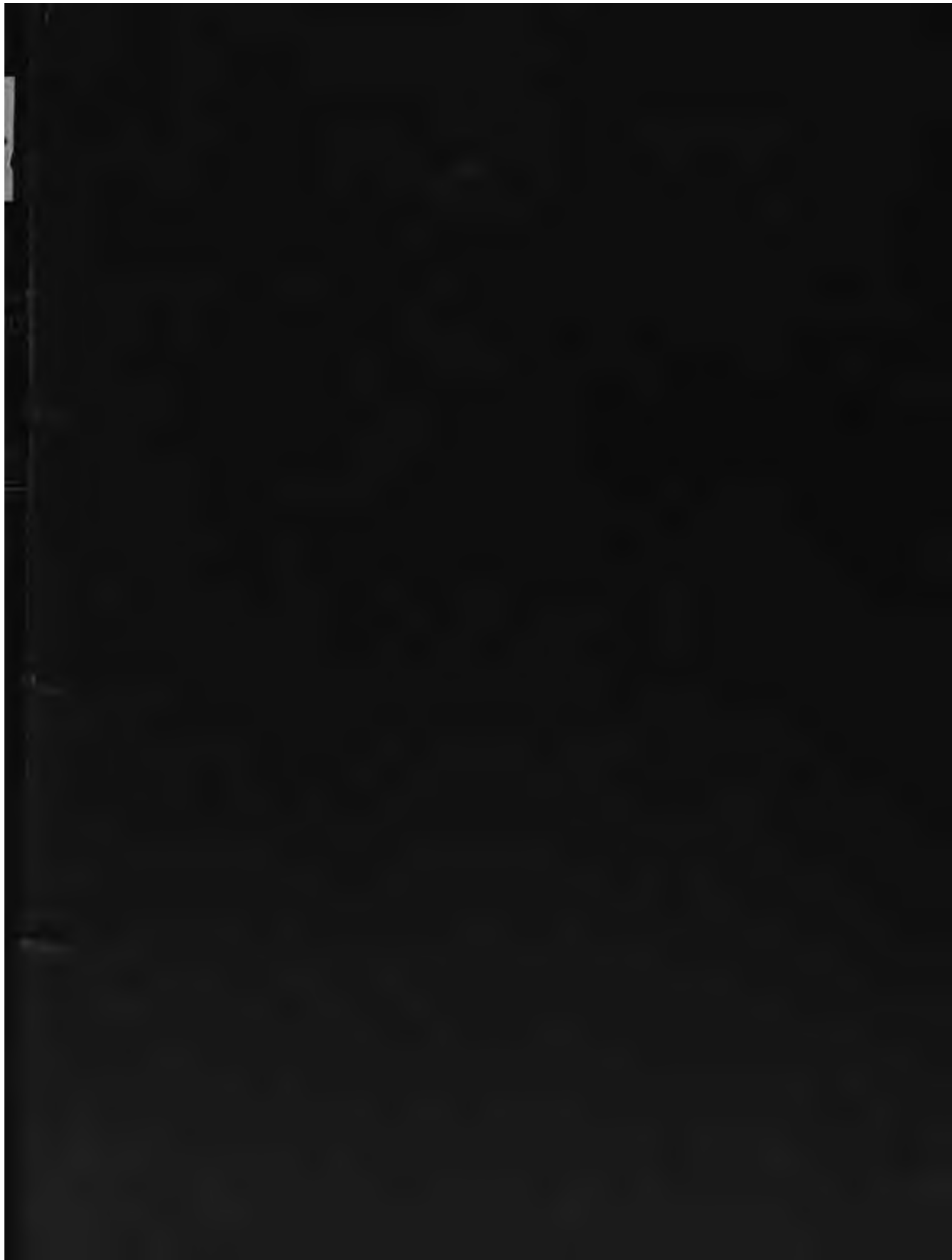
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THE  
HISTORY,  
ANTIQUITIES, AND DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
TOWN AND PARISH  
OF  
WORKSOP,  
In the County of Nottingham.

---

BY JOHN HOLLAND.

---

"Time, which antiquates antiquities, and hath an art to make dust of all things, hath yet spared these minor monuments."

SIR THOMAS BROWNE ON URB BURNIAL.

Thousands, ten thousands, on this plot of earth,  
Had lived, and died, ere we beheld the day;  
Thousands, ten thousands, here shall spring to birth,  
And live and die, when we have passed away:  
The dead, the living, the unborn, shall meet,  
When the last link hath made the chain complete,  
And death, the grave, the world, all vanish at their feet.

J. MONTGOMERY, MAY 11, 1826.

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SHEFFIELD:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY J. BLACKWELL, HIGH STREET.

SOLD ALSO, BY P. SIBSONS AND SON, AND JOHN WHITLAM, BOOKSELLERS, WORKSOP.

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1826.

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## DEDICATION.

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TO HIS GRACE,

**BERNARD-EDWARD, DUKE OF NORFOLK,**

EARL MARSHAL, AND HEREDITARY MARSHAL OF ENGLAND, &c. &c. &c. &c.

**Lord of the Manor of Worksop.**

---

**MY LORD DUKE,**

FIVE years ago, I presumed to inscribe to your Grace a small Poem, descriptive of "SHEFFIELD PARK," a portion of your Grace's domain of HALLAMSHIRE,

and I had the satisfaction to know that the same was condescendingly received and approved.

Circumstances have since led me to engage in the illustration of a kindred, but more important subject—the History and Description of the Town and Parish of WORKSOP, with which your illustrious family stands so immediately connected; and I am happy in having your Grace's permission to dedicate this Work to your Grace. However diffident I might feel in the hope that the following pages might not be unworthy of your Grace's approbation, I could not but rejoice, while collecting the materials, that I should have the satisfaction of presenting the same, to the illustrious hereditary representative of the noble families, who have successively been Lords of WORKSOP, through so many generations; and in whose posterity, auspicious circumstances allow me to hope, that this lordship, among others, may long remain. And may I be permitted to add, that I cannot but herein remark, how much happier than your ancestors, your Grace must needs be considered, in being thus permitted, by Providence, to behold, not only your lineal heir, but likewise the hopeful progeny of himself and his illustrious consort.

That you may long enjoy the coronet of your rank, in all dignity and happiness; and that it may hereafter descend, with increasing splendour, through successive generations of your illustrious house, is the sincere wish, and fervent prayer, of,

MY LORD DUKE,

Your Grace's much obliged and most obedient humble Servant,

THE AUTHOR.

*Sheffield Park, May 11, 1826.*

## P R E F A C E.

---

**I**T must be matter of surprise to every intelligent person visiting **WORKSOP**, as well as to every reflecting resident, that a place of such antiquity and interest should hitherto have been without an historian; and this surprise is encreased, when we contemplate the memorials of its past grandeur, and the respectability of its present inhabitants. Few, indeed, have been the tourists, or general topographers, who have passed it over without notice; but none of these have devoted to it more than an unsatisfactory share of attention. To collect, arrange, and exhibit whatever has been thought worthy of remark by different authors, as well as to notice such other objects as have come under the writer's own inspection, will constitute a chief feature of these pages.

Every person at all acquainted with the general history of Nottinghamshire, must be aware, that for the substratum of any local compilation laid within that county, recourse must be had to **THOROTON**, whose work, however scanty on the whole, contains an invaluable treasure of ancient documents or abstracts, now no longer extant,—or not to be consulted in the originals without incredible difficulty: to this venerable authority, therefore, my first acknowledgments are due.

Next to that, I am indebted to a work of a more transcendent character, The *MONASTICON ANGLICANUM* of Sir William Dugdale; being an invaluable collection, in three princely folio volumes, of foundation, and other charters, &c. of all the religious houses in the kingdom. Mr. Hunter, in his accurate and elaborate History of "HALLAMSHIRE," (the ancient, as well as modern owners of which extensive domain, were likewise lords of Worksop,) has touched upon many things connected with this place; and it may truly be added, *non tetegit sed ornavit*,—to this work, no less than for the personal kindnesses of the elegant author, I am singularly indebted. My thanks are likewise due to Henry Ellis, Esq. keeper of the records, in the *British Museum*; and especially to the Rev. Bulkeley Bandinel, curator of the *Bodleian Library*, at Oxford, for communications connected with the treasures of these rich repositories of the national muniments: likewise to Mr. Wainwright, the historian of the Wapentake of Strafford and Tickhill, for the freest access to his well selected Antiquarian Library. The above comprise the chief of my literary obligations; other individuals have a record in my grateful recollection, for attentions which it might be less proper to specify. I must, however, particularly acknowledge the kindness of Michael Ellison, Esq., agent to the Duke of Norfolk, whose situation enabled him to afford me several facilities in the conduct of my enquiries, and whose favours were enhanced by the politeness with which they were conferred: lastly, I must, with these acknowledgments, include the name of my friend, Mr. Shaw, of Worksop, whose open door, hearty welcome, and hospitable board, have always characterised my reception at the house which first afforded me entertainment, and which has been my *home* on every successive visit to this place.

That the author is neither a native nor an inhabitant of Worksop, is a fact which, on consideration, must be allowed to depose rather favourably than otherwise, in reference to this work;—for, however nativity might be presumed to have identified him with the subject, or residence to have furnished him with the means of a superior acquaintance with some minor facts or localities, yet these advantages have been more than counterbalanced by the distinctness of impression, and vividness of interest, with which almost every thing under existing circumstances, presented itself to the eye and mind of a curious and admiring stranger.

Many matters, however, once to have been seen, and which must have been interesting to the antiquarian eye, exist no longer: and many others which do remain, are perishing by the common casualties of exposure, neglect, or the effect of time. The operation of enclosure acts has obliterated the original complexion of the neighbourhood, while other improvements have no less altered

the general features of the town. The demolition of the old vicarage house, appears to have been connected with the destruction of several mortuary memorials: the cellar, as well as the court of this dwelling, having been literally "paved with grave-stones," and there are persons who still recollect to have been arrested by the importunate "*siste viator*," who knew not the import of the words. I have given all the inscriptions at present extant in the church, in the prospect, that, at no distant period, alterations at present so imperiously called for, may probably remove, obscure, or destroy some of these memorials.

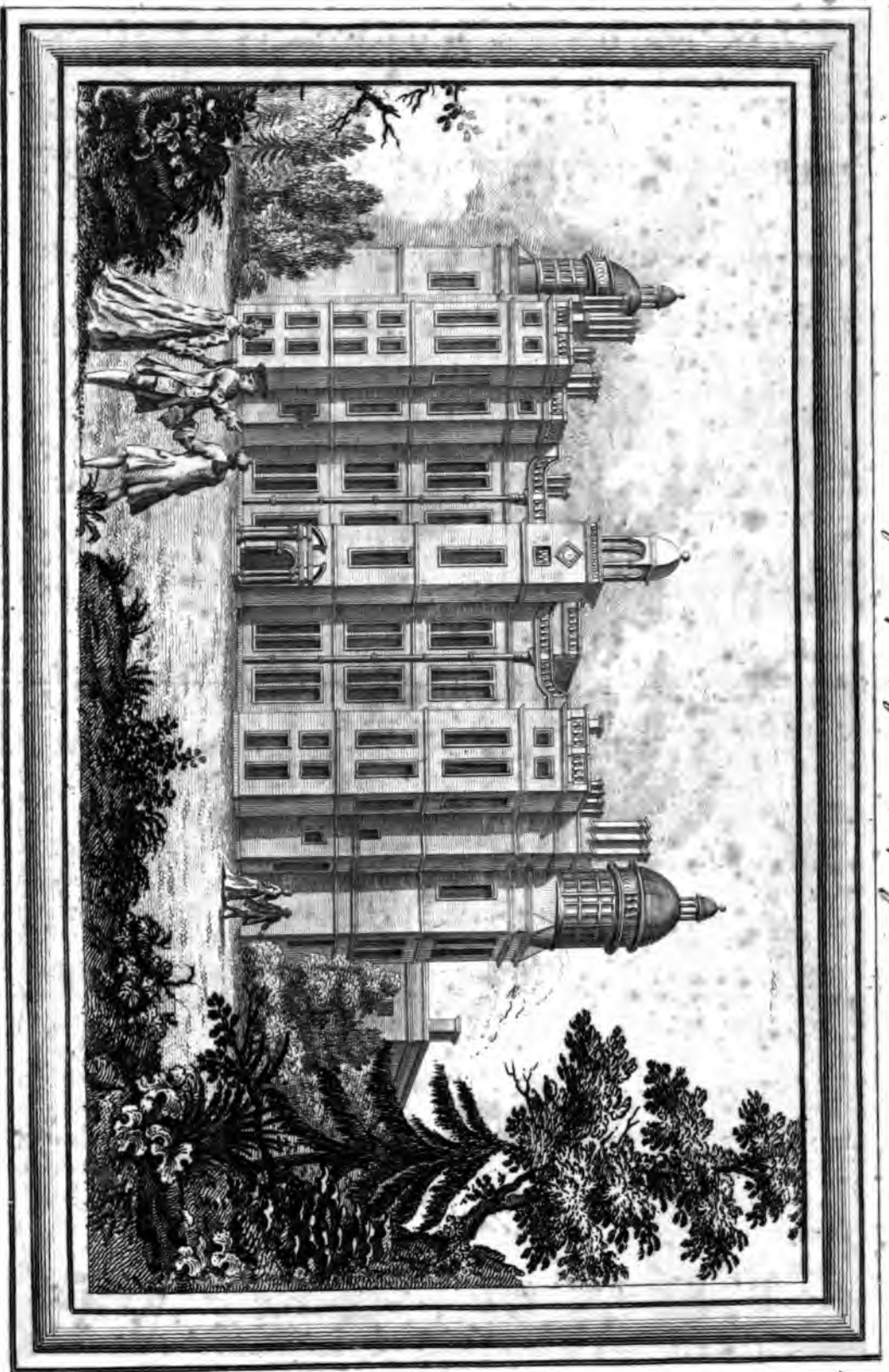
Of the manner and merit of the execution of the following work, the author has nothing particular to observe, beyond the general intimation, that having done the best he could with his means and his materials, he seeks no commendation, he deprecates no criticism. Of the matter and style it may be proper to say a few words: Having alluded above to some sources of historical information, it may be added, with reference to the descriptive character of the following pages, as well as some minor facts, that having had to familiarize himself with the general scenery, as well as particular objects in the neighbourhood; and to trust to oral report on several matters, where no better evidence could be had;—the free and flexible diction of the tourist has been adopted, in preference to the more chastised rigidity of the historical style. For the occasional expression of personal sentiments and feelings, which these pages exhibit, the author need only remark, that to his friends no explanation on this point can be necessary—and with others, no apology could avail. His design has been, by identifying the subjects of the narrative with his own feelings, to afford a vehicle for giving them a personal interest in the feelings of others.

It may, perhaps, be objected by some, that matters of trifling, and even of irrelevant importance are sometimes detailed; this is admitted, but it must not, at the same time be forgotten, that every thing is indebted for its comparative interest, no less than from its importance, to its relative connection with other subjects; and, therefore, that trees and streams, roads and fields, which could have no place in the map of a kingdom, nor even of a county, may, nevertheless, occupy distinguished situations in a parochial survey. If the fastidious charge of too great minuteness should be alleged on the one hand, it is hoped, on the other, that few facts of importance, or notices of matters of greater interest, will be found to have been overlooked or omitted. The author ventures to believe, that this work will be an appropriate heir-loom in the family library; and, however he may have acquitted himself in the execution of a task of no small difficulty, he can honestly

aver, that his principal motive has been, an ambition to record **whatever can render the TOWN AND NEIGHBOURHOOD OF WORKSOP** more interesting to residents or strangers. He will be gratified to entertain the inhabitants at their own fire-sides, and, by collecting and concentrating the scattered rays of local information, add but a small star to that rich constellation of topographical works, which occupies so distinguished a portion of our literary hemisphere.

*Sheffield Park, May, 1826.*





Work for in Nottinghamshire the late Seat of his Grace the Duke of Norfolk?

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# HISTORY OF WORKSOP.

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## CHAPTER I.

### *Descriptive, Topographical, and Historical Notices.*

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To a person at all conversant with Topographical History, the little town of Worksop possesses attractions of no common order, among the numerous places which derive an interest and importance, from their local association with the memory of "bygone times:" the ruins of past ages, are always interesting to our own; and the records of departed grandeur afford a pleasing theme for reflection, as well as narration.

With some of the greatest names in our history, the memorials of this neighbourhood are intimately connected; the Lovetots, the Furnivals, the Talbots—

"The Talbots ever true and faithful to the Crowne,"

were its ancient lords. This place was amongst their earliest possessions: here they dwelt; and hither were many of them brought for interment, where, with funeral obsequies, equally solemn and magnificent, they were committed to the earth within the sanctuary of the church. Here, invested with no inconsiderable degree of architectural splendour, stood a celebrated Augustinian Priory, where the canons and their superior performed religious services within its walls, and by their perambulations of mercy without, have left in the precincts a claim to something like veneration; for, whatever they might be in personal conduct, in their official character of ecclesiastics, I

cannot but reverence, even in *them*, the ministers of that religion to which they professed devotion. The canons have long since passed away, but not without leaving some mementos of their existence behind them: their venerable church still remains, the survivor of the priory, with the ruins of which it is surrounded. And although the Lovetot, the Furnival, or the Talbot, are no longer living names among the inhabitants, and even their very monuments are passing into oblivion, as fast as time and unsparing neglect could hasten them, yet still in their noble representatives, the Howards, they continue to reside on the ancestral domain, giving to modern Worksop, along with its elder history, additional claims to the notice of the antiquary and the man of reflection.

Worksop is situated in the north-west angle of the county of Nottingham, in the Hundred of Bassetlaw, and within a few miles of the Yorkshire and Derbyshire borders; the Shireoak, once growing in the neighbourhood, being said to adumbrate with its branches a portion of the three counties. The town is  $53^{\circ} 18'$  north latitude, and  $1^{\circ} 9'$  west longitude. The parish is estimated at about 17,000 acres, and includes, besides the town, the following hamlets:—Gateford, Ratcliff, Sloswicks, Kilton, Manton, Rayton, Osberton, Scofton, Hardwick, Clumber, and Shireoaks; containing together about 800 houses, and 5,000 inhabitants. The parochial boundary line, as nearly as I can ascertain, from the report of ancient men, who have made the perambulation, appears to be as follows:—A brook a little beyond Harness Grove divides it from Whitwell parish; follow this stream to Mr. Glossop's house, and thence to the Welland or Welbeck water, and to the Sloswicks, which is in this parish; from Sloswicks to the Duke of Portland's park pales, which here bound the Welbeck domains, and separate Worksop from the parish of Cuckney; pursue the line of these pales to the Ollerton turnpike, and then cross the forest to the broad, or white stone, and from thence into Clumber Park, to the Carburton water; from thence to Appleyhead, and from Appleyhead to the Chequer House, beyond Osberton, where the parishes of Babworth, Blythe, and Worksop converge; from Chequer House, by an old road, to near Carlton; then, past Mr. Eddison's farm, by a road, which separates it from Mr. Ramsden's estate, which is in Carlton parish; from Mr. Eddison's farm to Deepcar Lane, and thence, by the boundary between the Shireoaks and Kiveton estates, to Scrattah wood, and to the rivulet mentioned at the beginning of the rout: the whole circumference may be about 20 miles.

It must always be alike gratifying to the inhabitants, as well as the historian of any place, when it may be honestly averred, that its local situation is favourable to health and longevity; and this distinction, I think, may safely be claimed for the town and neighbourhood of Worksop. The general openness of the district, the absence of high hills, and large rivers, or swamps, with the rural occupation of most of the inhabitants, enhance the average probability of constitutional vigour and long life.

The total number of children baptized, from January 1819 to June 1825 inclusive, was 957; of these, 117 died at a year old or under; 49 under seven years; so that 781 of these were living when this minute was taken, in July 1825.

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## General Description.

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3

The number of burials, according to the parish register, for six successive years, was as follows:—

1819,	-	-	80	1822,	-	-	72
1820,	-	-	72	1823,	-	-	74
1821,	-	-	67	1824,	-	-	88

The comparative amount of mortality, during the above years, exhibits a striking resemblance in numbers. If to these, we add 43 for the remaining entries, to the time when I made the abstract, they will together make 496 burials from January 1819 to July 1825 inclusive. Of these, 117 died at the age of one year or under; 79 under fourteen years of age; 30 from fourteen to twenty-one; 88 between twenty-one and forty-five; 95 from forty-five to seventy; 51 from seventy and upwards, but under eighty; 36 are entered as eighty or upwards; of these, 10 attained to eighty-five, and four to more than ninety years of age.

In a climate like ours, proverbially fickle and variable, where so much of our comfort, and so many of our out-of-door avocations depend upon the weather, it is not strange that experience has rendered familiar with signs and prognostics, a people whose interests and constitutions are so materially affected by atmospherical changes. Although most persons are in the daily habit of talking about the weather, few would have the patience and regularity to make a diary of its changes; and fewer still the faith to believe that any practical advantage could result from such a labour.

In 1795, a tract was published by that curious observer, Hayman Rooke, Esq. of Mansfield Woodhouse, shewing the average result of a meteorological register, there kept, during the nine preceding years. This report, with the diaries afterwards annually published by the same gentleman till the close of the year 1805, are, by the kindness of Thomas Walker, of Bury Hill, Esq., now lying before me, a brief synopsis of which, as they relate to this district, may interest some readers.

The result of the observations on the *winds* from 1785 to 1794 inclusive:—

	<i>East.</i>	<i>West.</i>	<i>North.</i>	<i>South.</i>	<i>N.E.</i>	<i>S.E.</i>	<i>S.W.</i>	<i>N.W.</i>
<i>Total.</i>	195	702	127	176	395	383	991	682

The *weather* during the same period:—

	<i>Frost.</i>	<i>Snow.</i>	<i>Rain.</i>	<i>Fair.</i>	<i>Mild or Hot.*</i>	<i>Thunder.</i>
<i>Total.</i>	602	166	1351	2110	329	70

\* Mild or hot refers to the temperature of the air in summer, when the Thermometer is above 76 degrees, and above 45 degrees in winter.

For the next ten years, the total amount is as follows:—

WINDS.							
<i>East.</i>	<i>West.</i>	<i>North.</i>	<i>South.</i>	<i>N.E.</i>	<i>S.E.</i>	<i>S.W.</i>	<i>N.W.</i>
111	426	178	246	452	366	1214	644

WEATHER.					
<i>Frost.</i>	<i>Snow.</i>	<i>Rain.</i>	<i>Fair.</i>	<i>Mild or Hot.</i>	<i>Thunder.</i>
791	174	1300	2157	286	94

While there is observable a striking similarity in the aggregate amount of the observations, during the above periods of comparison; yet nothing can exhibit greater differences in every respect than the details of the changes both in the wind and weather, as they are registered under the respective years: and where the resemblance of the figures is the greatest, the difference in the seasons is no less remarkable; for instance, the *amount* of the changes in wind and weather for the years 1790 and 1800, are in the nearest accordance with each other of any in the lists; and yet, in the former spring, the leaves did not appear on the hedges till about the 15th of May, and then only on the S.W. sides; whereas, in the latter, the hedges were in leaf, and vegetation forward by the 12th of April. In general, however, the medium period, is that when in this neighbourhood the foliation of the hedges is expected.

Situated as Worksop is, in a rich and gentle valley, on the border, although not within the bounds of that ancient sylvan tract, called “Sherwood Forest,” the neighbourhood is not generally surpassed, in the beauty and variety of its woodland scenery and park landscape: and the approach to the town is interesting, by whichever side it is entered. Many persons have been struck with, and some have celebrated its appearance from the Retford road. The entrance from Sheffield is still more striking; both views deriving much of their effect from the magnificently-wooded eminences about the manor; and the cathedral-like appearance of the two noble towers surmounting the church, which have been said to strike the eye with an impression equal to Westminster Abbey.\*

Another feature, which immediately attracts the notice of a stranger, is the great number of malt-kilns standing almost in every direction. Whatever others may think, to my eyes these structures are rather picturesque than unpleasing objects, partly from their general construction, but principally from the appearance of their *cowls*, as the wooden turn-about hoods on their roofs are termed. Of course, the malting business is here extensively carried on; and, as would be inferred, the land is well adapted for, or at least extensively devoted to the growth of barley: this is the case, and abundant and beautiful crops of this generous grain, constitute one of the richest

\* Very pleasing views of the town may be obtained from other points; for instance, where the Blythe road joins with Kilton Lane; from the manor cottage on the Barlbrough road;

and a sweet glimpse of the church towers may be obtained from Mr. Dethick's house, by looking over the charming paddock of Mr. Roe, opposite.



field pictures in the neighbourhood. There are three corn mills in the town, respectively propelled by wind, water, and steam: the last, being the most considerable, is the only instance in the town of the application of that powerful agent: it is competent to grind 100 loads of corn per day.

The soil in the neighbourhood is various.—About two miles from Worksop, near the canal side, towards Shireoaks, a good clay is dug, and made into bricks, house tiles, and drain covers. It consists principally, however, of that light red sandy description, which prevails so extensively in this county, and is favourable for most of the purposes of agriculture. It is, however, less favourable to the growth of wheat than the stronger argillaceous earths.\* The tillage for wheat, which used to be confined principally to the tract of clay land stretching on the north-west side of the town, has become more generally prevalent of late years, owing to the high rents, and the still higher price of corn, during the late war, and which produced a more successful system of management; insomuch that some farms, which scarcely grew any thing except a little barley, are now so plentifully productive, that the landlord receives a higher rent, while the tenant has crops proportionately good. This diluvial sand, is in some places concreted into a soft rock, specimens of which may be seen, where it is intersected by the roads: it is, however, utterly unfit for building purposes, even for fence walls; and as the magnesian limestone, although dug in the vicinity, is not appropriated for this purpose, the enclosures are generally fine thorn hedges, which, according to the season, are sheeted with fragrant blossoms, adorned with roses, or luxuriantly invested with brambles, and which have a very pleasing effect on the eye accustomed to the monotonous appearance of stone fences.

The diluvial gravel and sand, here prevalent, and exhibiting such singular phenomena in corroboration of the Mosaic account of the deluge, and interspersed with tracts of more recent or alluvial deposition, extend over the greatest part of this county, and a portion of the eastern extremity of Yorkshire. The western limit, commencing at Nottingham, preserves a regular course through Mansfield, Worksop, Doncaster, Thorne, and northward into Yorkshire; covering the yellow limestone through its whole extent. The average depth of this bed, is said to be from 200 to 300 yards, consisting, in general, of a reddish-coloured sand, and rounded pebbles of quartz and silex, which are irregularly arranged in layers, but do not appear to be portions of any strata in England. Speaking of the tracts which in this county are denominated "Forest land," the late Mr. Speechley, gardener to the Duke of Portland, observes, "It is a continuation of hills and dales: in some places, the hills are very steep and high; but in general the descents are gentle and easy. The soil is composed of a mixture of sand and gravel; the hills abound most with the latter, and the vallies with the former, as the smaller particles are, by the winds and rains, brought from time to time, from the high grounds to the lower. It is on the hilly grounds we make our plantations,

\* The *clays* in the neighbourhood of Retford are celebrated for the growth of hops, which, it would seem, has been attempted here also, as between Worksop Park and

Shireoaks, there are some fields still retaining the appellation of "*Hop-yard closes*."

which will in time make the vallies of much greater value, on account of the shelter they will afford.”\* The spirit of planting has been caught, and many hundreds of acres are now covered with fine rising wood. The “Dutchess Mary,” as the wife of Edward, Duke of Norfolk, is fondly called by the inhabitants of Worksop, is said to have decorated the adjacent hills. Indeed, the extent, the variety, and beauty of the plantation grounds, constitute one very distinguishing feature of the scenery in this neighbourhood.

The common English liquorice, (*Glycyrrhiza vulgaris*, Ger. *Emac. of Ray*,) which is said to be found growing wild† in some parts of the county, was formerly cultivated in abundance for sale at Worksop. At what period the culture of this singular root was introduced, does not appear. It was, however, a staple product of the place in the reign of Elizabeth, as appears from the notice of it by Camden:—“Ab hoc sex ad occasum milliaribus abest Workersop non minùs lætissimo prouentu *Glycurize* quàm Comitis Salopie ædibus præclarum, ad quem a Louetotis primis huius dominis sub Normannis, per Furniuallos, et Neuillum, cùm lauta hæreditate deuolutum est.”‡ The growers of this commodity not only vended it in their own town, but regularly carried it for sale to the neighbouring markets. An ancient man told me, that seventy years ago, an old woman, with a grey pony, used to bring bundles of liquorice from Worksop to Mansfield once a week, and he well recollected with what avidity himself and other children spent their halfpence in purchasing this masticatory root. I have not been able to learn why its cultivation was neglected; but probably either a reduction in the demand or the profits, connected with the precarious success of the crop, might lead the growers to believe, that the ground which had heretofore been planted with liquorice, might be appropriated to other purposes with greater advantage. Be this as it may, it is now at least half a century since the cultivation was discontinued; and it would be in vain at present, to look for one degenerate specimen in the neighbourhood, where it used to grow so plentifully.§

Nottinghamshire, with the noble exception of the Trent, is not celebrated for the magnitude of its rivers; and of those, even of comparative importance, none flow in the immediate vicinity

\* From a letter printed in Hunter's edition of Evelyn's "Sylva."

† Of this, however, I am not certain. Jacob Ordoyno, in his *Flora Nottinghamiensis*, does not mention it at all; nor does Dering, in his *Catalogus Stirpium*, otherwise notice it, than as being "very much cultivated in this county, especially about Worksop." Fuller, with his characteristic quaintness, has celebrated the Nottinghamshire liquorice; "England," says he, "affordeth hereof the best in the world for some uses; this county the first and best in England. Great the use thereof in physic, it being found very pectoral and sovereign for several diseases; a stick hereof is commonly called the spoon prescribed to patients, to use in *Lingences* or *Loaches*. If (as Æneas's men were forced to eat their own trenchers) these chance to eat their spoons, their danger is none at all. But

*liquoris*, formerly *dear* and *scarce*, is now grown *cheap* and *common*, because, growing in all counties. Thus, (adds he) *plenty* will make the most *precious* thing a *drug*; as *silver* was nothing respected in Jerusalem in the days of Solomon."—*Fuller's Worthies*, vol. ii. p. 205.

‡ Camden's *Britannia*, p. 311. Edit. 1506.

§ The last plantations of liquorice which the inhabitants remember, were about Forest Lane; in the pleasure-ground before Mr. Roe's house; and in some of the gardens near the town. Mr. Turberville told me that he dug up about half an acre, which remained in a garden that came into his possession, and which had been planted with this root by a gardener who has left his name to a biennial variety of one of the most beautiful of our English flowers,—the *Brompton Stock*.

of Worksop, except the Royton, a charming little river, which rises near Chapel Anston, on the Yorkshire border of the county. A deep romantic dell,—its precipitate sides covered with the spreading oak and the aspiring ash, and nearer the ground, with thick jungles of underwood,—runs along the road side near Church Anston, giving a direction to the water which sparkles and murmurs along its bottom. From this picturesque cradle, the river crosses the road on the northern border of Lindrick Common, pursues its course to Shireoaks, passes near Worksop Lodge, and after turning two or three mills, washes the northern boundary of the town, where it is crossed by a neat bridge, of four small arches. Here, again, it is diverted for the purpose of working a mill; and the fine sheet of water, collected for this purpose, with the river and the by-streams, enhance the charms of a mid-day or moon-light ramble over the *canch*, as one of the meadows is locally denominated. From Worksop it pursues its course by Scofton Beilby, and Blythe:\* at the latter place, it expands into a beautiful lake, after which it joins the Idle between Scathworth and Bawtry,—its whole course being about twenty miles.

From a proximity to that magnificent cluster of noblemen's houses, which have been denominated "*The Dukery*," as well as other causes, the neighbourhood of Worksop abounds with game. Hares, pheasants, and partridges, as if conscious of the laws by which they are protected, scarcely suffer themselves to be startled by the passing stranger. Here, indeed, in their wide domain, they are almost as secure as in a paddock, and to a person who feels no temptation to invade the perilous security of their rights, the sight of so many animals confiding around him can only produce sensations, in unison with the effect of the season or the scenery; indeed, the free warren of this neighbourhood might have been conveyed in terms similar to the charter of Edward the Confessor, to Ranulph Peperking, quoted by Camden, as abounding

"With heorte, and hinde, doe and boeke,  
Hare and foxe, catt and brocke, [badger]  
Wyld fowel with his flocke,  
Partrich, feasant hen, and feasant cocke,  
With greene and wyldc stob and stocke."

Where game abounds, vermin will often abound also; the situations favourable for the covert of the former, are frequently no less conducive to the increase of the latter description of animals, and the churchwardens' accounts abound with items of monies annually paid for their destruction.†

\* At this place, Leland says they told him that the river "was named Blith. And as I remember (continues he) it is the very self water that cummith for Workensop, or else Workinsop water runneth into it. Both waters meet together a little beneath Blith."

† Some conception may be formed of the number and species of these animals, from the following extracts from the accounts alluded to. The earliest which I have seen is in the year 1689.

"Paid for 4 foomards, one fox, and one otter ... 2 8

	s.	d.
"1699, ffor 12 fomerds' heads .....	2	0
ffor 3 otter heads .....	3	0
ffor 2 fox heads .....	2	0
"1717, a wyld cat head .....	1	0
"1717, fox head and badger's head .....	2	0
"1749, for 9 wild cats, 2 foxes, 5 martins, 2 otters, and twenty-three fumers. ....	21	10"

This latter description of vermin were especially abundant, and there is one field on the Manor estate, still called the "Fomhard Close."

Travelling must ever be an affair of importance ; and journeys formerly were not undertaken without fear, inconvenience, and risque. The mistress of the world conquered our island, and intersected it with highways for the passage of her legionaries ; but, although these surprising works were daily before our eyes, it was not until the period when this country had begun to approximate that acme of civil and military glory, which distinguished the empire of the Cæsars, that the accommodations for land carriage began to rival the Roman roads in excellency, if not in imperishability ; and at present, one of the most striking subjects of comparison between ancient and modern times, is the improvement of our roads. Most of the inhabitants of Worksop recollect the period, when the roads in this neighbourhood were almost impassable to common carriages ; some of them, in the still earlier state, when the turnpikes were comparatively but little frequented, and the vehicles almost hidden by the depth of the ruts, and the hollowness of the road ; and a few of octogenarian race, have not forgotten the routine of the pack-horses, and the tinkling of their bells, a sound that seems to have been no less grateful to the animals than necessary to their progress ; for many of the lanes were so deep and narrow, that this sound was designed, when heard at a distance, as a signal that whichever of the carrier's trains came first to a wider space, they should remain until the others had passed by, as unless this precaution had been attended to, one of them must have had to recede to the passing place. Great numbers of these used to arrive at Worksop, with lead and other commodities from Derbyshire, and the parts adjacent, and returned laden with malt : the metal was deposited on the *Lead Hills*, as the spot is still called, and the grain was distributed in the districts from which they came : indeed, until the opening of the canal, the maltsters continued to be lead carriers, and blocks of the metal used to be laid all along the road side, from the Sand Hill to Steetley Bar.

Worksop at present possesses great advantages of land and water carriage, as well for the communication of intelligence, as the convenience of travelling ; for, beside the navigable canal which passes close by the town, there are direct roads to most parts of the kingdom. Of these roads, the four principal ones diverge from the town, nearly in the direction of the four cardinal points of the compass. That towards the east, leads to Osberton, Retford, and other places in that direction ; it is under the management of J. L. M'Adam, and although immensely expensive in its formation, exhibits at present one of the finest specimens of his method, being at least 75 per cent. better for travelling than it used to be. The road on the western side leads to Chesterfield, and Derbyshire in general ; it used to be deep clay, but at present is mended as far as Barlbrough, with a good covering of stone from the Ladylea Quarry.\* The ancient road from Chesterfield to Worksop, used to pass by Shireoaks and Haggin Fields, and entered the town by the common, on the north side. Edward, Duke of Norfolk, shortened the distance materially, by bringing it directly through his park, and straight to the market-place. The street called Westgate, being inconvenient for ingress or egress of carriages, the road has since been carried from

\* By a side cut, the limestone of this quarry is commodiously transferred to the barges on the Canal. In 1792, a plan (now in the Duke's office,) was submitted, with the de-

sign of rendering equally available, the excellent and beautiful freestone of Steetley.

Bridge Street round the base of the Castle Hill, a great and obvious accommodation. On the north side of the town, issues the road to Doncaster, Blythe, and Bawtry; this is on the deep gravel sand, but well covered with the hard limestone from the Ladylea Quarry,—broken small, and compactly bedded upon the principle of M'Adam; but let the traveller only turn into any of the bye lanes, and he will soon encounter the deep and almost impassable sand. On the same side of the town, the road to Sheffield and Rotherham, passes through Gateford, and over Lindrick Common, with the soft stone of which it is indifferently well maintained. Lastly, may be mentioned the road which departs in a southerly direction, and goes to Mansfield, Newark, Nottingham, and London. Immediately after quitting the town, it is carried over, or rather *through* Sparking Hill, where, on either side, the curious traveller may easily examine the alluvial deposit of sand and pebbles, mentioned before, as peculiar to this district. From the yielding nature of the soil, the road used to be covered with a thick substratum of ling, fern, and other vegetable matter from the forest, previously to the reception of the pebbles, which, without this intervention, worked into the sand, and presently disappeared: at present, it is mended with the excellent hard limestone of the neighbourhood.

Of the state and affairs of Worksop, anterior to the conquest, we have no written memorials to assist our researches; and when the light of history fails, conjecture is too often obscure and dubious, or like the *igneus fatuus*, shining only to mislead. The only ray of documentary light, which breaks through the gloom of this period, is the certified ownership of Elsi, son of Castbin, mentioned in the Domesday-book, in connection with the particulars of the Norman survey of the place, and which is noticed below. This fact, trifling as it may appear, serves to prove that Worksop, in Anglo-Saxon times, was at least

“ A local habitation and a name.”

It might, indeed, be defended as a probability, that the site of this town was a place of residence at a much earlier period; for, although I am not aware that any discoveries have been made in the neighbourhood of Worksop, to justify its claim to such high antiquity, yet, from the fact of the very early peopling of this county by the North Mercians, and the favourable circumstances which would be afforded by this sylvan district, for the dwelling and sustenance of the ancient inhabitants of the island, the presumption of its very early settlement does not seem altogether absurd. The discovery, by the late Major Hayman Rooke, of many remains of great antiquity in the neighbourhood of his own residence, at Mansfield Woodhouse, and the existence of the barrows on Sherwood Forest, several of which this gentleman opened, and found them to contain the usual contents of bones, broken earthenware, and celts; these, together with the excavated rock at Blidworth, supposed to be a druidical fragment, all concur to prove that these parts were inhabited by the ancient Britons, and subsequently by their conquerors, the Romans, traces of their arts having likewise been discovered hereabout: and to bring the bearing of these remarks as near home as possible, it may be observed, that several of these tumuli or barrows, the ancient

burial mounds of the Britons, may yet be seen, with large trees growing on them, within the western limits of Worksop Park.

Miller, in his History of Doncaster,\* says, "Our ancestors seem to have been fond of building their large market towns at the extremity of two different soils: the town of Retford has at one end of it a stiff clay, and the other end sand; so at Doncaster, the south end of the town is sand, and the north end limestone." This, as we have seen before, is the case with respect to Worksop, and indeed many other towns, owing, no doubt, rather to chance than selection. Circumstances, rather than soil, may often have determined the eligibility of a site; and if, at an early period, the banks of the Royton were level and fertile, as at present, in consequence of the rich deposition of vegetable loam; this spot, we may presume, would be selected by our rude aborigines, as proper for cultivation, when, or by whatever method, tillage began to be by them practised. Virgil celebrates "*puer monstrator aratri*," and Thomson says, with no less historical truth, than poetical beauty, that,

" In ancient times, the sacred plough employed  
The kings, and awful fathers of mankind."

But whether this famous implement of husbandry, allowedly of early use in this country, was known to the ancient Britons, may well be questioned, notwithstanding a quotation made by Selden,† from an old work, which states, that one of our kings, who reigned 400 or 500 years before Christ! ordained, "that *plows*, temples, and ways leading to cities, should have privilege of sanctuary." The reader will smile at the antiquity of this law, and no doubt will agree with Thoroton, who adds, that *then*, "certainly, the inhabitants of this place were not much civilized."

It is, however, generally to the Saxon era, that we are accustomed to look for those authentic records and traces, which we regard as the earliest evidences in local history. Their kings were the beloved of the people; and their government, manners, and literature, are all too intimately interwoven with the very texture of our annals, ever to cease to interest, while Alfred remains a name unrivalled among monarchs; while Conisbrough Castle stands the proud initial of their antiquities; and while our daily conversation, owes to their language, the derivation of so much of its masculine energy. Of their residence in this county, every place bears testimony; for, according to Thoroton, there is not the name of any field, hamlet, village, or town, which is not of Saxon etymology.‡ Such, indeed, is the apparent indestructibility of words, that appellations

\* *Hist. Don.* p. 7.

† In his illustrations of Drayton's *Polyolbion*. Robert, of Gloucester, likewise mentions the King *Malmatius*, and his law, in his *Rhyming Chronicles*.

‡ I have been unable to obtain any satisfactory etymo-

logy of *Worksop*. Dickenson, indeed, says, that Thoroton was but a "moderate scholar, and no etymologist;" and although I can neither disprove this assertion, nor find the etymon of this appellation, I still think that Thoroton is correct in his general remark. The following nomenclature may be amusing:—*þenrð—rcop. Wæorþascop. pretium stirps*. The hire or price of the race, stock, or foundation. *þircan—rcop.*

have been less mutable than buildings; and, throughout the kingdom, nothing is more striking, than the change which has taken place in towns and villages, from their ancient to their modern state; some, once populous and thriving, being now utterly decayed; and others, then scarcely known, being now among the most flourishing in the kingdom. In the earliest times, according to Cæsar, the aboriginal Britons gave the name of a town to a part of a forest, which they had fortified with a rampart and a ditch.\* And similar to this, is the testimony of Strabo, whose description refers to a state of peace. Forests, says he, were the only towns in use among them, which they formed by cutting down a large circle of wood, and erecting huts within it, and sheds for cattle.† At the period above referred to, we may understand by a *town* or *village*, an uncertain number of dwelling-houses, situate not far asunder, together with a certain competent circuit of ground or territory, long since comprehended by our Saxon ancestors in one name, wherein is contained one or more *manors*, or part thereof, whose owners being formerly and now called *Lords*, the whole content is most commonly termed the *lordship*, but only properly so, when it is all one *manor*, or *man's*.‡

At the period under review, Elsi had two manors in Worksop, which paid to the geld or tax, as three carucates; the land being then, however, sufficient for eight ploughs, or eight carucates. Whether he resided within either of these manors, or in the vicinity of Worksop, does not appear; unless we are to suppose that he was one of those six thanes, mentioned in Doomsday-book, as each having a *hall*, at Carlton in Lindrick. This supposition, indeed, is not improbable, from the local proximity of the above places, and the fact of his ownership of Worksop; where, as well as in several other places, he is noted, in the above record, to have "*soc and sac, and toll and thaim*,§ with the king's customs of twopence; but the third penny of the earl was not his." From the reservation of this latter fine, it is probable that he might hold the style, but had not received the investiture of an earl; for, upon a creation to this honour, whether by charter, or *per cincturam cingulo comitatus*, the sheriff was commanded to make a livery upon him of *tertium denarium de placitis comitatus, ut sit inde comes*, as were usually the words of the precept—the third penny of the pleas of the county, that thereupon he might be earl thereof; that is to say, of

*WORKSOP*: to operate, work, or succeed in the stirp. Perhaps the most probable derivation may be from *þorðrceipe*: *dignitas*, quasi *worship*, or *honour*, referring to the place as the seignery or residence of the lord. The *Anglo-Norman* vocabulary has no terms resembling the components of this epithet.

The following *rebus*, which some time ago appeared in a periodical work, affords as intelligible, and some may think, a no less satisfactory nomenclature:—

What few persons like, and what most men admire,  
Will, join'd, name a town in fair Nottinghamshire.

\* *Cæs. De Bell. Gal. lib. v.*

† *Strabo. lib. vii.*

‡ Preface to Thoroton.

§ *Soc and sac*, import a power to administer justice and execute laws; to hear and judge causes, and levy forfeitures and amercements, arising amongst the people resident in a certain circuit of territory. *Toll* was a payment made in a fair or market, for goods or cattle bought or sold. *Thaim*, or *thaim*, was, according to Glanville, a royalty or privilege, granted by the king's charter to the lord of a manor, for having, restraining, and judging of bondmen and villains, with their goods and chattels, in his court.

the fines and foreign emoluments, which anciently belonged to the earl, the king having the other two parts, according to the laws of Edward the Confessor.\*

Whatever the state and revenues, the authority and privileges, of this Saxon possessor may have been, they were all swept away by the conquest; and Worksop, as a member of the fee of Tickhill, was given with that honour, by William the Conqueror, to his friend and favourite, Roger de Busli, that great leviathan of the northern estates, as he has justly been denominated. From this period, the historian treads upon firmer ground; the light of documentary evidence breaks in upon his path; and his progress, although not uninterrupted, is far from uncertain.

William the Norman, having achieved the conquest of this country, and being somewhat settled in the throne of England, ordered the celebrated Domesday-book to be compiled, sometime between 1080 and 1086. This valuable record, contains a survey of all the land in the kingdom, with very minute particulars of the tillage, size, value, and occupancy of the several manors and subordinate divisions of territory.† The following is the entry concerning Worksop:—

IN WERCHESOP. h b Elfi. lll. car træ ad gld. Tra  
viii. car. lbi ht Rog. i. car in dnio. 7 xxii. soch de  
xii bou hui tre. 7 xxiii. uill 7 viii. bord hntes. xxii  
car. 7 vii. acs pti. Silua past. ii. lev lg. 7 iii. qz lat.  
T. R. E. ual, viii. lib. m, vii

\* In England, the Saxon title and office of *ealdorman* of a county, was changed, in the ninth age, into the Danish title of *earl*; which office was of its own nature merely civil: the military governor, or general of the army, was called by the Saxons *heartogh*; which title is given to Hengist, &c., in the Saxon Chronicle, and was afterwards exchanged for that of *duke*. On these earls or viceroys, sometimes a kind of limited sovereignty was conferred. An homage being reserved to the king, these provinces were still regarded as members or districts of the kingdom, though such earls were a kind of petty kings. Under our Norman kings, such sovereign earldoms, or dutchies, were distinguished among us by the epithet of *palatines*.

The kings of France, of the third race, made several governments hereditary, under the title of counties, &c., reserving to the crown some homage or acknowledgment, as for *fiefs*. The Normans, on the introduction of hereditary titles of honour in England, substituted barons, instead of kings' thanes, who had long held capital estates and vassalages in fee. Earls and dukes frequently retained, long after this, some jurisdiction in the counties which gave them their honours. The Rev. Alban Butler had in his possession an original MS. ordinance of John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, in which, by an act, which is called perpetual, he commands, that every musician, who shall play on any instrument within the limits of his said county of Salop, shall pay a small annual sum to a certain

chapel of our lady, under pain of forfeiting their instruments, with other ordinances of the like nature.—*Lives of the Saints*, vol. x. p. 284.

† The two original volumes of this immense work still exist, in the chapter-house of Westminster, where they may be seen and consulted, for a fee of 6s. 8d., and 4d. per line for transcripts. Their contents, however, are still more easily accessible from translations, or fac-similes of their contents, which have been published. The praise which has been awarded to William for the composition of this roll, is refused by Mr. Thierry, a recent French author, on the ground, that it was forced upon him, by the necessity which, as the chief of a conquering army, he found himself under, of arranging the spoils of his victory.

*Histoire de la conquête de l'Angleterre par les Normands, de ses causes, et de ses suites, jusqu'à nos Jours, en Angleterre, en Ecosse, en Irlande, et sur le continent. Par Augustin Thierry. Paris, 1825.*

I have given the above title at length, with reference to the fact, that the English reader is indebted for his version of M. Thierry's work to a native of Worksop—Mr. Fletcher, who has also executed the spirited translation of Voltaire's *Philosophical Dictionary*.



In this document, *Werchesoppe* is noted as a manor in the Wapentake of *Bernesdelawe*, as the Hundred of *Bassellaw* is there termed. The import of the whole may be given as follows:—In Worksop, Elsi (son of Caschin) had three carucates of land to be taxed; land to eight ploughs. Roger (de Busli) had one carucate in the demesne, and eighty-two sochmen on twelve bovates of this land; and twenty-four\* villains, and eight bordars, having twenty-two carucates; and eight acres of meadow. Pasture-wood two leuæ [miles?] long, three quarentens broad. In the time of King Edward the Confessor, this was valued at eight pounds; when the Conqueror's survey was made, seven. To this, Thoroton adds the *Rolneton* of Doomsday.—In Rolneton, [now *Rayton*] near Worksop, also of Roger de Busli's fee, were two manors before the conquest, which Elsi and Alchill had, and paid the geld for one carucate. The land two carucates. There afterwards Roger, the man (or tenant) of Roger de Busli, had one carucate, and four sochmen, on two bovates of this land, and one bordar, with one plough or one carucate. There were two acres of meadow: wood-pasture, six quarentens long, and three quarentens broad. In King Edward the Confessor's time, 20s. value; in the latter part of the Conqueror's, 10s. There was one bovat paid to the geld, soc, and then waste.† It is impossible, from the indeterminate nature of these terms of measurement, to say, with precision, or even to guess, what portion of manorial territory might be comprised within the above specification; and it would be still more difficult to ascertain by what means, or through what stages, this property passed from the fee of De Busli, into the possession of the first De Lovetot, whom we find to be the owner of Worksop, early in the time of Henry the First. Thoroton's supposition, that this transfer was effected by a marriage with Emma, the daughter of Roger, the man, or tenant of De Busli, mentioned in the survey above; with the remarks of Mr. Hunter, on the improbability of such a union, shall presently be noticed. Of the fifty-four individuals, included under the vague designations of sokemen, villains, and bordars, we have no other particulars; and it is remarkable the survey makes no direct mention of their wives or children. As, however, they were located on the soil, with little opportunity,

\* So the translations of Thoroton and Bawdwin, of the passage, which I have adopted, not having the means of collating my transcript with the original.

† Of the precise meaning of the several terms used in the above extract, there exists some difference of opinion. The *carucate* of the Normans is supposed, by Thoroton, to contain an hundred acres (six score to the hundred;) and Mr. Hunter seems to be of the same opinion; for he explains three carucates and a half, by "about three hundred and fifty acres." *Hallamshire*, p. 17. The *demesne*, appears to have been a portion in the tillage of the lord paramount himself. Of the *bovates* or *organgs*, (each being considered as much as might be cultivated with an ox,) eight were supposed to go to a carucate. Of the *sokemen*, it is difficult to assign the degree, being greater or less, as they held of the king or his great thains: In the present instance, they might perhaps resemble our gentry; at least they were *free* of blood, and fit for honourable service. The *villains* were "a superior order of tenantry;" they were,

however, *bondmen*, born upon, and transferable with the estates: they, however, might hold some land themselves; and although of servile condition, were less depressed than the *bordars*, who seem to have been of the lowest degree, and probably had their meat where they did their work. The *leuæ* and *quarentens* are both uncertain measures: "The former is usually translated furlong, and the latter mile; but Bloomfield says the latter was two miles." *Hallamshire*, p. 17. *Note*. The wood pasture, *silva pascua*, which is always very particularly noted, was such forest land, as, being free from underwood, admitted of being grazed by cattle. The right of *nemo-rus* pasturage was a valuable privilege, and constituted part of the wealth of the monasteries. Mr. Ellis observes, in his elaborate introduction to the Doomsday-book, that wood land is always exactly entered; not so much with reference to the timber, as on account of the value of the acorns and the beech mast; which, when the country was in an imperfect state of cultivation, had a degree of importance, of which we in general form but a very inadequate idea.

and less disposition, to migrate, we may safely refer to them and their descendants the semination of the town.

William de Lovetot is the earliest residentiary name connected with Worksop, as well as the first of his family with which genealogists are acquainted: he was seated in this place early in the reign of our first Henry; but, gratifying as any description of his mansion and domestic manners would needs prove, we must be content to have our expectations on this subject, rewarded by a very scanty sufficiency of information. Indeed, of the foundation, the perfection, and the destruction of the castle or mansion, which certainly once existed at Worksop, it is surprising that no historical intelligence is now to be obtained. This house was built, at the north side of the town, on a rock of friable red sand stone, similar to that upon which Nottingham Castle is built. It was probably of a circular, or multangular form; had a keep, or dungeon, in the rock underneath; and was surrounded by a wide and deep ditch, filled from the river, which ran near its base. Of this building, not a trace remains; and its demolition appears to have been complete three centuries ago. Leland, writing in the time of Henry VIII., observes,—“The old castelle, on a hill by the towne, is clene downe, and scant knowen where it was.” He elsewhere adds,—“And there is a place now invironyd with trees, cawlyd *The Castelle Hille*, where the Lovetoftes had sumtime a castel. The stones of the castel were fetchid, as sum say, to make the fair lodge in Wyrksoppe parke, not yet finisshed. But I am of the opinion, that the chanons had the ruines of the castel stones to make the closure of their large waulles.” To whatever purpose the ancient ruins may have been appropriated, the “closure waulles” of the priory have disappeared as entirely as the foundation of the castle. The elevation is still “inviroynd with trees,” probably a second or third generation since Leland wrote. The succession of these trees, and the operation of other local causes, have almost entirely obliterated all traces of the original appearance of the site. I found the diameter of the upper platform, or surface of the hill, to be about sixty yards. The Lovetots and Furnivals have long since passed away, but the site of their feudal mansion is yet distinguishable; and the *Castle Hill* remains, at this day, and shall long continue, with its characteristic appellation, to ascertain to posterity the very spot where, in ancient times, stood the residence of the Norman lords of Worksop.

That this castle existed previously to 1135, or within about 50 years after the death of the Conqueror, appears probable; for before the death of Henry the First, William de Lovetot had laid the foundation of the priory at Worksop, and granted his charter to the canons, which endows them, among other things, with “the chapelry and tithes of his whole house.” Now, as no church is mentioned in Domesday-book, as existing at Worksop, at the period of this survey, it is probable that, previous to its erection, a priest would be kept to celebrate religious offices in the chapel of the castle. The king’s manors, before the conquest, were generally furnished with churches: but where this was not the case, the Norman lords, presently after the acquisition of their territories, founded, and endowed them with the tithes of their manors. The influence of the clergy, who now acted as an independent body under the pope, was at this time very considerable;

and it is reasonable to suppose, that this circumstance, operating with the piety and zeal of De Lovetot, might lead him to build, at an early period of his residence, the church, in which his above-mentioned charter describes the canons to be residing. But to return to the castle.

This edifice, most probably served, at this period, the threefold purpose, of containing a chapel of religion, a court of justice, and constituting a place of residence, if not of strength and security. The baronage consisted of two classes; distinguished as *baronis majores* and *baronis minores*: the former being the greater thane, or baron, who held in *capite* immediately of the king himself; the latter, the lesser thane, or baron, who held by the same tenure of the lord paramount, and is the description of rank usually referred to in the exordium of the monastic and other grants. At this period, the king, by his barons, or the lord of the manor in his own right, used to hold a *court-baron*, at his hall or chief mansion, whence such assembly had anciently the appellation of *hall-mote*, and at which, the *sokemen* or barons, *men*, *knights*, and *thanes* or freeholders, were required once in three weeks to attend; when a hearing and adjudication of all causes, within the jurisdiction of the lord, took place. The remains of this ancient privilege may be traced in the *court leet*, which is still claimed to be held by the lord of the manor at certain seasons. At present, the steward of the Duke of Norfolk, summons a jury of the inhabitants of Worksop once a year, who meet at the moot-hall, when the names of the householders are called, and such as do not present themselves, are fined one penny: they likewise make a perambulation of the town, remove obstructions or nuisances from the streets, and see that no encroachments or trespasses are made on the lord's wastes; after which, they dine together, and adjourn the meeting to another day, when they are dismissed.

Of the nature of that bond service, or *villainage*, which the feudal lord exacted from his tenants, and by which he cultivated his demesne, a tolerably distinct and accurate notion is now entertained by the generality of well informed persons. It may, however, briefly be repeated, that the serfs, or lowest labourers, were attached to the soil like cattle, and were, with their wives and children, the property of the lord; and estimated with the land as mere personal property, or (to use the words of an old act) "the clothing of the soil." *Terræ vestitus, terra vestita*; i. e. *agri cum domibus, hominibus, et pecoribus*.<sup>\*</sup> Even the tenants, who were in a somewhat less abject condition, owed the most exorbitant services for the lands which they held; such as ploughing, sowing, reaping, and carrying the harvest of their superiors; or in various other ways, contributing, one, two, three, or four *diets*, or day's labour per week, according to the quantity of land which they might individually hold. These diets, under the designation of boon-days, long survived the extinction of the feudal system.

These servile tenures, like every other species of slavery, became, in process of time, to be considered rather as burdensome and ruinous, than desirable and profitable, to the masters; and

<sup>\*</sup> *Vide Glossar. Cangii et Spelmanii.*

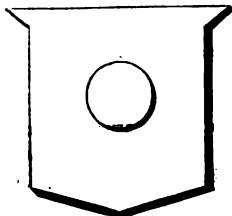
hence they produced the elements of their own abolition: for, while the lords, as they had all the service and wealth of their vassals, were likewise liable to maintain them and their sequels, so they became the more willing to manumit and set them free on easy terms. It is, however, under these circumstances of reciprocal domination and vassalage, that the tenantry of Worksop must be contemplated before the conquest, and for some centuries afterwards. How far its lords exercised this degrading superiority, with the tyranny common to their order, or with a more paternal regard to the welfare of their inferiors, we have no very determinate evidence: the little which we do know of the character of the De Lovetots, must be admitted to depose favourably for their memories.

## CHAPTER II.

### Worksop and its Lords, De Busli, the Lobetots, the Furnibals, and the Talbots.

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It will now be proper to identify the progress of our history, with some notice of the families, which, under the above denominations, have successively included Worksop among their great northern possessions, for a period of more than 500 years, reckoning from the ownership of the first De Busli, to the alliance between the heiress of Talbot and the illustrious house of Norfolk. A memoir at large, of any one of these great families, would occupy ten times as much space, as I can afford to devote to my notices of the whole; which must, therefore, be confined chiefly to the direct lineal succession through each house, and to such members thereof, as circumstances may appear to connect more immediately with the History of Worksop. It may be interesting to the reader, as well as illustrative of the subsequent details, to exhibit at one view the direct line of descent through these families; the following sketch, therefore, is abstracted from the most authentic pedigrees:—



Arms. Gules one bezant.

#### De Busli.

Roger de Busli, = Murial.

Who held the manor of Worksop, died 1099.

Roger de Busli, the second, died without issue in temp. Hen. I.



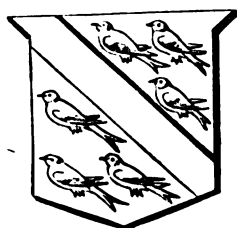
Arms. Argent, a lion rampant, parti per fess gules and sable.

### De Lobetot.

William de Lovetot. = Emma, said to be daughter and heir of Roger, a tenant of De Busli.  
Temp. Hen. I., founder of Worksop priory.

Richard de Lovetot, living 1161. = Cecilia.

William de Lovetot, dead before 1181. = Maud, dau. of Walter FitzRobert, of the noble house of Clare.



Arms. Argent, a bend between six martlets gules.

### De Furnival.

Gerard de Furnival = Maud De Lovetot, only dau. and heiress of the above William, living died at Jerusalem, anno 1219. 1249.

Thomas de Furnival slain in Palestine 1237.

Gerard, son and heir, died without issue. } = { Maud, dau. of John Fitz-Geffry.

Thomas de Furnival, second son and heir, dead, anno 1279. = Bertha, living 1279.

Thomas Lord Furnival, died anno 1332. = Joan, dau. of Hugh le Despencer. Eliz. dau. of Sir P. de Montfort.

Thomas Lord Furnival, died 1339. = Joan, eldest dau. and co-heir of Theobald de Verdon, co. Stafford.

William Lord Furnival, brother and heir of Thomas, died without male issue 1383. = Thomas Lord Furnival, called *the hasty*: at the battle of Cressy; died without issue 1336. } = Joan de Montgomery. = Thomasine, dau. and heir of Dagworth, co. Norfolk.

Sir Thomas Nevil,\* Lord Furnival. = Joan de Furnival, sole dau. and heir.

\* On the marriage of this nobleman with the heiress of Furnival, he united, with his own cognizance, the armorial bearings of his wife's family. These arms are still faintly legible on the old monument, said to represent the above lady, in Barlbrough church. In the dexter chief corner, is the saltier, the arms of Nevil; and, in the sinister, those of Furnival; while, at the feet, the two coats are impaled on an escutcheon,

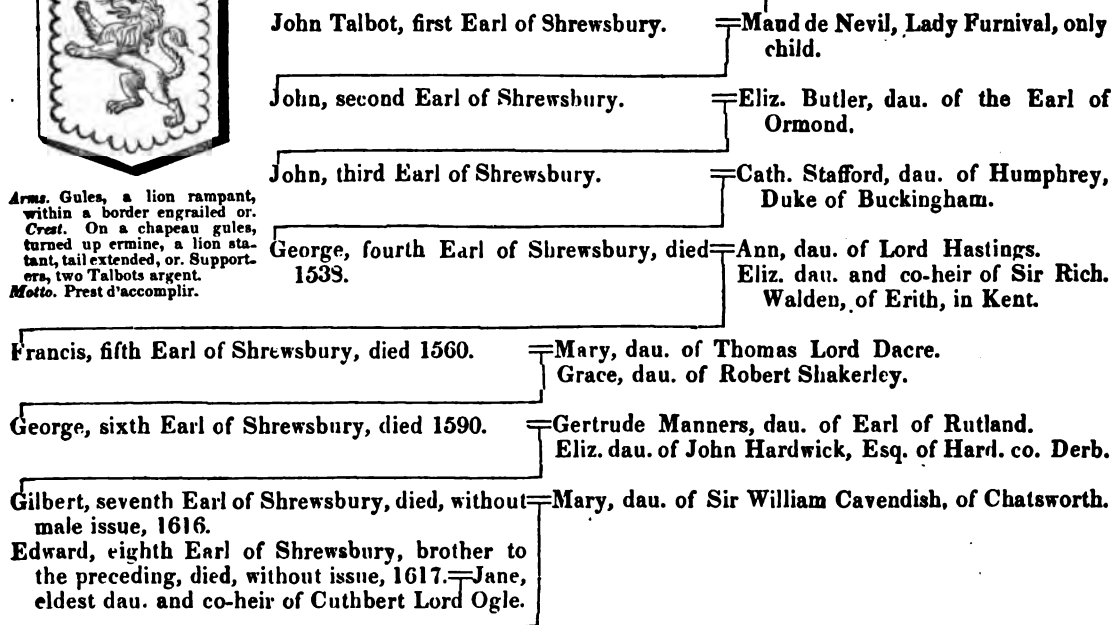
supported by two Talbots, collared and belled.—*See Lyons' Mag. Britannia*, Vol. V. p. cccxvii.

Mr. Hunter gives an explanation of the arms of this Sir Thomas Nevil, knight, viz. Gules a saltier argent, charged with a martlet sable, impaling Furnival.—*Holkhamshire*, p. 30.



*Arms.* Gules, a lion rampant, within a border engrailed or.  
*Crest.* On a chapeau gules, turned up ermine, a lion passant guardant, tail extended, or. *Supporters.* two Talbots argent.  
*Motto.* Prest d'accomplir.

### Talbot.



### Howard.

Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, by his marriage with this lady, became possessed of the manor of Worksop, and other great estates.

= Alatheia Talbot, youngest dau. and co-heir.

### ROGER DE BUSLI.

The reader has already seen, that the manor of Worksop was held, after the conquest, by Roger de Busli, the friend and favourite of the Conqueror: but by what means it came to the Lovetots, is far from being satisfactorily ascertained. Popular writers, on the authority of Thoroton, have generally contented themselves with stating, that Emma, the wife of William de Lovetot, was the daughter of Roger, a feudal tenant of De Busli. The probability of this supposition (for it is nothing more,) is disparaged by Mr. Hunter, with considerable effect. "Thoroton," says he, "has an unsuccessful conjecture, that the interest which the Lovetots obtained in the north, was by the marriage of William, with the daughter and heir of Roger, who is mentioned in the Domesday survey of Worksop, and whom he supposes to be *homo*, or tenant of De Busli; while, in fact, the Roger, whose name so often occurs in the survey of De Busli's fee, was not any subinfeudated person of that name, but the lord-paramount himself. Nor is any stress to be laid upon

the deference which appears to be paid to the wife of this William de Lovetot, in the foundation-charter of the monastery of Worksop. The donations made to that house are said to have been '*concessione et consideratione Emmæ uxoris*;' but such clauses are usual in the charters of that age and nature; and it immediately follows, that the deed was executed with like consent of his sons."\* Mr. Hunter, with great deference, offers a conjecture, that the Ricardus Surdus of the Domesday survey, may be the direct ancestor of the house of De Lovetot; and the reader, who wishes to see what may be said upon this subject, will find the passage, in connection with the extract above-quoted, from Hallamshire. By whatever means the immense possessions of De Busli came into the hands of

#### WILLIAM DE LOVETOT,

the next Norman lord of Worksop, the succession of the property, and the family descents, become thenceforward clear and indisputable. Of the character and actions of this William, few traces remain. To him must be attributed the erection of the castle, the foundation and endowment of the noble church and monastery, the remains of which, together with its charter of privileges, exist to this day, as a testimony to the piety and liberality of his character. At this period, it is reasonable to suppose, that the space between the castle and the monastery, where the town now stands, would be selected as the site of such dwellings as the inhabitants might require, or be then able to erect: these were, no doubt, clumsily constructed of timber, wattled, and plastered with clay, and probably covered with sods or sedges; for, whatever progress the Anglo-Saxons might have made in architecture, and however much the Normans might improve it, by their erection of castles and monasteries, yet it was chiefly confined to those structures, and it was long, very long, before the feudal barbarity of the times suffered it to operate, with any advantage, in the construction of private dwellings.

Thoroton says of this William, that "he had Sheffield, in Hallamshire, in the county of York, and was a principal man in Huntingdonshire, where he left a barony to his second son Nigellus."† He was likewise the founder of the parish church of Sheffield, and of an hospital there for the sick; which church, as will hereafter be shewn, was annexed to the religious establishment of Worksop. When he died, is uncertain; and where he was buried, might have been left in the same obscurity, but for the rhyming testimony of Pigot the monk, who says,—

" Sir William dicest, and was tumulate  
In the said church,‡ on the north side,  
On the nederest gree, for his hye estate,  
Tending to the hye awter, and there doth abyde."

He was succeeded by his son,

\* Hallamshire, p. 25.

† Thoroton, iii. 385.

‡ Of Worksop.



RICHARD DE LOVETOT,\*

who, in the second year of the reign of Henry II., gave an account of twenty marks for the marriage of his wife Cecilia, whereof ten were in the treasury, and ten he then ought; and one norry hawk, and one gerfalcon.† His name, together with the name of his son William, appear with the sign of a cross annexed to each, as witnesses to a deed, among the Dodsworth MSS. in the Bodleian library.‡ Of his actions at Worksop, we have no account, beside his donations to the priory, which will be mentioned in the proper place. He was living 1161, and resided here during the reign of King Stephen, which monarch himself visited Worksop§ during his troublesome reign, as appears from his having there confirmed a benefaction of Malgerus de *Rolleston* to the monastery of Rufford.|| This Richard was succeeded by his above-mentioned son,

WILLIAM DE LOVETOT,

the last male heir of this name; he married Maud, a daughter of Walter Fitz-Robert, of the noble house of Clare. In the pipe-roll of the fifth year of King Stephen, he is said to give account of the half year of the farm of Blythe; and of £235 of the pleas of G. de Clinton; and for the land which Roger de Calz had with his mother; and of 200 marks of silver, that the king should pardon him the pleas whereof he was impleaded at Blythe. He died between the 22d and 27th years of the reign of Henry II., leaving an infant daughter, named Maud, after his wife, who survived him. In default of natural guardians, the wardship of this great heiress devolved upon the crown;¶ and Henry II. thus became invested with that abominable privilege

\* As Worksop was the principal residence of William de Lovetot, and as this estate was transferred through his son Richard, I have not thought it necessary to interrupt this rapid sketch of the family descent, by any distinct notice of the branch settled in another part of this county. Thoroton, under *Wishou*, or *Wishoe*, has given a number of particulars respecting the individuals of this name, as well as a pedigree, by which it appears that Nigel, the second son of the first William de Lovetot, had direct descendants alive so late as 43 Edward III., when John de Lovetot was found to be son and heir of Edward de Lovetot, and aged eight years.

† Rot. Pipe. 2. H. 2.

‡ Hallamshire, p. 28.

§ It appears by the following passage from Hovedon, that Worksop was again honoured by the presence of royalty on Palm-Sunday, 1189:—"Statuit Dominus Rex Richardus diem coronationis sue apud Wintoniam in clauso Pasche. Eodem die perrexit Rex apud Clipstun contra Wilhelmum Regem Scottorum: Et præcepit ut omnes qui capti fuerant in Castello de Nottingham et Castello de Tikhill et aliis Castellis convenirent ad eum apud Wintoniam in crastino clausi Pasche. Tertiâ die mensis Aprilis (dominicâ scilicet in ramis palmarum) fecit Rex Angliæ moram apud Clipstun, et Rex Scottorum apud *Worksoppe* propter diem solennem. Quartâ die

Aprilis Rex Angliæ et Rex Scotiæ venērunt apud Suwelle. Rex Scotiæ petiit a Rege Angliæ dignitatis et honores quos predecessores sui habuerunt in Angliâ."—*Hovedon's Annals*, pars posterior. Whether Worksop was ever visited by any of the other royal personages, said to have resided occasionally at Clipston, does not appear: the visits of King James I., and Prince, afterwards King Charles I., are subsequently mentioned. It may be added, that His present Majesty, before his accession to the throne, has been at Worksop more than once.

¶ Regist. de Rufford.

¶ During this royal surveillance, she was in the custody of Ralph Murdac, sheriff of Derbyshire; when it was certified, about 32nd Hen. II., that she had in dower the town of Dinely, in Hertfordshire, worth, or valued, at £12 per annum. In the "Testa de Nevil," a record, kept in the Remembrance Office, are the following entries:—

"Iste tenet in Capite de d'no Rege. Itē Matill. de Luvetot tenet in Worksop foedū uni' milit de eadē comitissa et ipsa de Rege de antiquo feoff'" page 6. This designation of the *old feoffment*, in this record, implies, that the lordship was held by her ancestors in the reign of Henry I. Under "Feoda militū in Cōm' Noting. Matill. de Lovetot pro feod' V. milit 'in Wirkesop et Gringel X. marc'."—P. 20.

of the feudal system, claimed alike by the king and the barons, the right of appropriating in marriage the minors thus at their disposal. "Extreme tenderness of age," says Mr. Hunter, "was not always thought to present a sufficient reason for the crown to forego the advantages which accrued from the exercise of this right. But Henry seems to have left to his son and successor Richard, to select the person to whom her hand should be given; and therefore to appoint to what new family the fair lordship of Sheffield should devolve. As might be expected, he chose the son of one of his companions in arms: and Maud de Lovetot was bestowed on

#### GERARD DE FURNIVAL,

a young Norman knight, son of another Gerard de Furnival, who was with the king at the siege of Acre." At what period this marriage took place, does not appear; it was, however, by this illustrious alliance, that the lordships of Hallamshire and Worksop came into the Furnival family.

This de Furnival was in favour with King John, which monarch agreed to take homage of him, on condition of receiving 400 marks of silver, for the lands which had been William de Lovetot's. This sum, however, was never paid; "for not long after happened the great fight under the walls of Micabel. To the success which that day attended the arms of King John, the valour of De Furnival contributed. In the battle, and pursuit, 200 knights were made prisoners, one of them, whose name was Conan de Leon, fell into the hands of De Furnival. This prisoner he rendered to the king, having in return a remission of his homage fine."\*

Connected with the history of this Gerard, and his Nottinghamshire possessions, we may further add, that, "while the eldest branch of De Lovetot thus ended in a female heiress, there was another branch still existing, sprung from the first William by his younger son Nigel. When the father of Maud died, the rights of this branch were vested in Richard de Lovetot, who seems to have acquiesced in the transit of the great property of the family, to his cousin, her husband, and her issue. Not so his younger brother and heir Nigel. In the pipe-rolls of the ninth of King John, there is much respecting the controversies between this Nigel and De Furnival. In that year, Gerard de Furnival gave £1000, and fifteen palfreys, to the king, that he might quietly possess those lands to which Nigel de Lovetot made claim against him. But though thus the best part of the inheritance passed from the name of Lovetot, the family of this Nigel continued to reside in the county of Nottingham, for several generations, in a state of respectability and splendour."† This Gerard undertook a journey to Jerusalem, where, according to Matthew Paris, he died, anno 1219, his wife surviving him at least 30 years. He was succeeded by his son,

† Hallamshire, p. 29, and Thoroton, 4to Edit. Vol. iii. p. 387.

† *Ibid.*

## THOMAS DE FURNIVAL,

who was his heir. This Thomas was slain in Palestine, during the lifetime of his mother. She gave to William de Furnival, her youngest son, her manor of Gringely, as she had previously given the mill, at the same place, to the convent, for the benefit of his soul. This William had a fair and market granted in Gringely, 37 Henry III. Gerard, son of Gerard, brother of the above William, released to Henry, son of Richard, king of Almaine, and his heirs, all the right or claim he had, or should have, in the manor of Gringely, and lands and tenements in Wiseton, Claworth, Misterton, Walcringham, and Stockheyth, which had belonged to William de Furnival, his uncle.\* Gerard, the brother of this Thomas, was with him in the Holy Land, but returning, was buried at Worksop. The wife of Thomas de Furnival is not named in the genealogies, but they had issue,

## GERARD DE FURNIVAL,

who was heir, Thomas, his brother, and a daughter, who became the wife of Roger, son of William de Mowbray. This Gerard married Maud, sister and co-heiress of Richard Fitz-John, son of John Fitz-Geffrey, justice of Ireland: dying without issue, he gave his body to Worksop, and was succeeded by

## THOMAS DE FURNIVAL,

his brother, whose wife's name was Bertha, and who is said, in the pipe-rolls of 7th Edward I., to be fined 40s., "because she retracted, or withdrew herself." This Thomas, by his deed, dated at Canterbury, 50th Henry III., released the fore-mentioned manor of Gringely, to Sir Henry, eldest son of the illustrious king of Almaine.

At this period, "The Commons in Parliament complained, that the land then swarmed with pilours, robbers, oppressors of the people, manstealers, fellons, outlaws, ravishers of women, unlawful haunters of forests and parks, &c. Whereupon it was ordered, for the suppressing of present, and preventing of future mischiefs, that certain commissioners should be empowered in every county, to summon all persons of quality before them, and tender them an oath, for the better keeping of the peace, and observing the king's laws, both in themselves and retainers."† Such was the ostensible motive for this unprecedented census of the noblesse. Fuller apologises for obtruding a conjecture, that the *real* intent of this was, "to detect and suppress such who favoured the title of York, which (continues he) then began to be set on foot, and afterwards openly claimed, and at last obtained the crown." This catalogue of gentry was made in the

\* Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 318.

† Fuller's Worthies, vol. i. p. 41.

twelfth year of the reign of Henry VI. Among the names returned by the commissioners for the county of Nottingham, we find—

JOHANNIS GAITFORD,  
RICHARDI GATFORD,  
WILLIELMI LASSELS,  
RICHARDI RANCHESTERE DE WIRSSOPE.\*

The last mentioned Thomas was succeeded by his son,

THOMAS LORD FURNIVAL,

who was summoned to Parliament, as a baron of the realm, from the 22d Edward I., anno 1294, to the 6th Edward III., anno 1332. He was under age, 1st Edward I., and married to Joan, daughter of Hugh Le Despenser, and sister to the elder Spenser, the favourite of Edward II. After her death, he took to wife Elizabeth, widow of Simon Montacute, and daughter of Sir Peter de Montfort, of Beldesert Castle, in the county of Warwick. This Thomas was the great hero of his family; often assisting the king by his prowess in war,† as well as by his counsel in Parliament.

\* Although Worksop does not appear to have conferred a surname on any family, as lords of the seignior, I have met with some incidental notices of persons denominated therefrom. In the Hundred Rolls, temp. Edw. I. Com'. Linc' are entries concerning "Ric's de Wyrksop," "Steph de Wyrksop," and "Walm de Wyrksop."

Fuller mentions a Robert Worsop, who was born, according to Bale, in the county, which he is believed to mistake for the diocese of York. He was bred an Augustinian in the convent of Tickhill, not far from Doncaster, where he wrote many books, and one, called, "The Entrance of the Sentences." Bale saith, that at last he was made a bishop, not naming his diocese; and no such prelate appearing in our English catalogue, it rendereth it suspicious, that either he was some suffragan, or some titular bishop in Greece. He died, and was buried at Tickhill, about the year 1360.—*Worthies*, vol. ii. 209.

The following inscription, according to Peck, was once to be seen in the nave of Lincoln cathedral, circumscribed on a marble, in the middle whereof was a cross of brass:—"Hic jacet Johannes de Worsop, quondam canonicus istius ecclesie; qui obiit sexto die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini m<sup>o</sup>. ccc<sup>o</sup>. xxxvi<sup>o</sup>. Cujus anime propitiatur Deus. Amen. [At the foot of the cross.]

"Fili Dei,  
"Miserere Mei."  
*Desiderata Curiosa*, vol. ii. p. 310.

In the Catalogue of the Vicars of Sheffield, "*Frater Ricardus de Wyrksop*," was instituted to the living, 2 Jan. 1434, or 1437.—*Hallamshire*, p. 153.

The three latter individuals were ecclesiastics, probably natives of Worksop, and perhaps the three former also, from the *nom de terre*, which they bear. In very early periods, every person had only, in general, one proper name. Camden says, he never could find an hereditary surname in England before the conquest. The surnames in Doomsday-book were brought in by the Normans; but they are mostly noted by the prefix *de*. But such appellations were not common till about the reign of King Edward III. Fuller observes, that, in the reign of Henry VI., "*de such a place*, began to be left off, and the addition of *knight* and *squire*, to be assumed." This change, however, made way but slowly at first.

In the economy of the church, it was common, for persons laying aside the secular habit, and entering upon a religious life, to resign their paternal surname, and to assume, instead thereof, a denomination from the place of their birth, as a proof that they had now done with worldly titles and family distinctions.

† How he carried himself, when with the King in the Scottish wars, may be inferred from the following extract from the Siege of Caerlaverock, an ancient heraldic poem, enume-

The influence which he thus honourably obtained, was exerted in the acquisition of certain privileges for himself, and the places under his jurisdiction. Of these, Worksop participated; and one of the special advantages which he thus conferred on the town, was the grant of a market and fair, which he obtained from Edward the First, in the 24th year of his reign. I have not seen the original document, which is preserved among the charter-rolls in the Tower of London; but in the calendar of those rolls, kept in the Record Office, it is thus ascertained:—" *Tho. de Furnival. Werkesope mercat' feria et libera Warren*." This grant was afterwards renewed, 24 Edward III., to Joan de Furnival, who married Sir Thomas Nevil, and again confirmed, 9th Richard II. Whether in these privileges, the gratification of the monks, the emolument of the lord, or the advantages of the town, might be principally contemplated, we need not attempt to ascertain: in many respects, the advantages must have been mutual, and the people of Worksop assuredly placed within the influence of benefits not hitherto experienced. The Latin word *Feria*,\* used in the grant, signifies a festival or holiday, because, as some say, at *fairs*, people are jocund and merry: but more probable is the opinion of Sir Henry Spelman, that they were so called, from having been originally held on the festival-day of some saint, generally that to which the church was dedicated. The monks were fond of fairs, and they were sometimes granted to the monasteries expressly; as at Lenton, in this county, to which convent Henry I. granted a fair of eight days, at the feast of St. Martin.† The old fair of Worksop, now discontinued, used to be held on St. Walburg's day, June 21; and probably the business of this mart, as well as of the weekly market, might anciently be transacted around the cross, the shaft and steps of which, are still remaining opposite the priory gateway. There are at present, two fairs held annually at Worksop, on the 31st March, and 14th October; and a weekly market on the Wednesday.

The grant of free warren—*libera warrena*—so commonly included in charters subsequent to the conquest, implies a franchise or privilege, by the king's prescription, for the conservation and capture of beasts and fowls of the warren; such as hares, conies, partridges, pheasants; and some add quails, woodcocks, and water fowl. This royal prerogative, of investing a person with the right of keeping and killing game on his own domain, was introduced by the Normans, who claimed a power of control over beasts and birds of warren, which, otherwise being *fera natura*, every one had a natural right to kill as he could. At present, the peculiarities of this right are involved in the operation of the game laws.

When Edward the First, ventured upon the daring experiment of demanding of his great

rating the barons, knights, and gentlemen, who attended Edward the First to that siege, anno 1300:—

Avec eus fa achiminez  
Li beau Thomas de Fournival  
Ki kant seoit sur le cheval  
Ne sembloit home ke someille  
Six merlos e bende vermeille  
Portoit en la baniere blanche.

With them marched the handsome Thomas de Furnival, who, when on horseback, does not resemble a man sleeping: he bore six martlets, and a bend gules, in a white banner.—*Antiquarian Repertory*, vol. ii. p. 159.

\* This word has been derived, perhaps fancifully, from the Greek *φορτω*, *fero*, *porto*, to bear merchandize.

† Thoroton, vol. ii. p. 203.

subjects, by what tenure they held their lands and privileges,\* this Thomas de Furnival was called upon to account respecting his lordship of Worksop; and in the hundred-rolls under 4th Edward I., there is the following entry:—"Et qd Thom' de Furnival tenet de maniu de Wirkesop de honore de Tyckhill, & ht furcas, picce, pillory, tumberel, foru nundias,† infangenthef, assis' panis cois', quo warr' ignorat & a quo tpe ignorat." The import of which is, that Thomas de Furnival held the manor of Worksop of the honor of Tickhill; and had gallows, piccage, pillory, tumberel, fair and market, infangenthef, with assize of bread and ale; but from what time, or by what right, does not appear.

This was in 1276, whence it appears, that instruments, for the exposure of venial, and the execution of capital, offenders, were, at this period, appurtenances of the town: indeed, the latter at least, certainly existed much earlier; for Richard de Lovetot, in a charter to the monastery, describes a meadow as extending, "*ad viam subtus FURCAS verses meridiem.*" The gallows was a necessary appendage to the privilege of infangenthef;‡ which implies, in a certain extent of civil jurisdiction, the right of taking, trying, and punishing thieves capitally, if found deserving of death. This privilege was sometimes granted to the heads of religious houses; and there are

\* The spirited conduct of John de Warren, Earl of Surrey, put a temporary stop to these proceedings; for when the king's commissioners came to inquire by what warrant or title (*quo warranto*) he held his lands, the undaunted Norman laid his hand upon his sword, and declared, that by that instrument his ancestors obtained the estate, and by the same he would defend it.

† Every Roman month had in its compass three great markets, which, because they were observed every ninth day, were called *Nundinae*.

‡ *Infangenðeaf, Infangenthef.* *Infra* (scil. jurisdictionem) *captus latro.* Item, *Ipsa jurisdiction, sive jus cognoscendi de latrone ita capto: Regale siquidem privilegium, et in antiquis diplomatibus, majoribus regni frequenter concessum: qui ipso hoc verbo talem assequuti sunt potestatem.—Specul. Gloss.* The foregoing is the interpretation given by Lye, in his *Anglo-Saxon Dictionary*. It was a privilege anciently appended to many grants of land, that the possessors should have *sac* and *soc*, or a certain extent of civil and criminal jurisdiction. "Thus," says Sharon Turner, "Edward the Confessor gave to the Abbot of Abendon, *sace* and *soene*, toll and team, *infangenðeaf* binnan hurgan, and butan burgan; ham soene and grithrice, and forestal. Similar privileges are given, with many additions, in various grants; and they conveyed not only the right of holding courts within the limits of the estate, to determine the causes and offences arising within it, but also the fines and payments, or part of them, with which the crimes were punished."—*Hist. of the Anglo-Saxons*, vol. ii. p. 542.

The word occurs but seldom in the Saxon Chronicle: the following passage is in Professor Ingram's translation:—

"These lands, and all others that belong to the minster, I pronounce a shire; that is, with sack and sock, toll and team, and *infangthief*. These privileges and all others, pronounce I the shire of Christ and St. Peter."—*Chron. Sax.* anno 963. The term, too, occurs in a charter of William the Conqueror's, in a passage which has been translated as follows.—"And I tell you, that I have given to God and St. Augustine, and the herd that thereto hireth, that they be their sac worthy, and their soc, and grithbrices, and homesteal, and forestal, and *infangthiefs*, and fleemen frims, over their own men, within borough, and without." In this instance, the passage, just quoted, will be understood more clearly, from the Latin version of Dr. Hickes, than from the very literal English translation: "Notum vobis esse volo me annuisse Sancto Augustino, suæque congregationi, ut habeant suum sake et soene, et pacis fracturam, et pugnam in domo factam, et viæ assaltus, et *fures in terrâ suâ captos*, et latronum susceptionem super suos proprios homines intra civitatem, et extra."—*Vid. Henshall on the Eng. and Saxon Languages*, p. 12.

These passages will throw some light on the explanation of the word given by Lye, in his *Dictionary*. Its composition from *In*, in, within; *Fangen*, taken, apprehended; and *Deaf*, a thief, proves that it primarily signified, as he gives it, "*Infra* (scil. jurisdictionem) *captus latro*;" a thief, apprehended within (i. e. within any particular jurisdiction.) But, from the passage before quoted, it appears to have been generally used, in a more extended sense, to signify, "*Ipsa jurisdiction, sive jus cognoscendi de latrone ita capto*;" the jurisdiction itself, or the right which that jurisdiction had of taking cognizance of a thief so apprehended.—I am indebted for the substance of the foregoing note, to my friend, Mr. Langley, of Brampton Byerlow.

numerous instances of offenders having been taken and hanged by their authority. Whether Worksop ever exhibited the spectacle of a capital punishment, or whether its gallows was only erected in *terrorem*, does not appear; history and tradition are equally silent on the subject.

*Piccagium*, *piccage*, is explained in Blount, to be "money paid in fairs to the lord of the soil, for leave to break the ground, to set up booths, stalls, or standings."\* The right of settling the price of bread and beer, was a privilege granted conformably with a statute of Henry II. The tumberel, or ducking-stool, was an engine of punishment, which used to be in every liberty, having view of frankpledge, for the correction of scolds, and other unquiet or disorderly women. This machine was in use in this country during Saxon times, and is mentioned in Domesday-book, under the appellation of *cathedra stercoris*, as the delinquents used to be placed in the chair, and ducked in stinking water.

This Thomas Lord Furnival, to whom the above privileges were granted, died on the morrow of the Purification, anno 1332: his second wife, who had Worksop, among many other fine estates, for her dowry, survived him many years: at her death, in 1354, Worksop, with the other rich possessions which she had held, reverted to the family of Furnival, and became the inheritance of a subsequent Thomas, grandson to her husband by his former marriage. But to proceed. On the death of Thomas, the grantee, above-mentioned, he was succeeded by his son,

#### THOMAS LORD FURNIVAL,

aged 40, anno 1332. He married Joan, eldest daughter and co-heir of Theobald de Verdon, a great baron in Staffordshire: this lady appears to have been but thirteen at the time of her marriage with De Furnival; and she died in childbed on the 6th of the nones (2d) of October, anno 1334. More than three months were taken up in preparations for the splendid ceremony of her interment, which took place in the Abbey Church of Croxden, 7th January, 1335; the prior of Worksop, with several other heads of houses, assisting at the solemnity. Her husband, surviving her five years, died at Sheffield, on the pridie Id. (14th) October, anno 1339; and was buried at Beauchief, near Sheffield, on the Monday, within the octaves of the ascension of our Lord.

This was during the reign of King Edward the Third; and in the notes of an inquisition, made, in consequence of a grant, passed in a parliament, held in the fourteenth year of his reign, of a subsidy of the ninth and fifteenth, for the purpose of enabling that monarch to maintain his wars, is the following entry respecting Worksop:—

It' quod ecclesia de Worksop tax' ad lx m' & dic' quod non' garb vell & agn' ejusdē vz p.

\* The abbreviation, "*picce*," used in the original roll, has, by an easy blunder of some transcriber for the press, been written "*pitte*;" at least so it is printed, in the splendid edition

of the Hundred Rolls, lately published, by order of Government.

ann' ad ver val xl m' & no' pl<sup>a</sup> q fen' & gleba ptin' eidē val p. ann' xxij s. iiij d. It' mortuar' oblat' & alie minut' decie'val' p. ann' xvij m' iij s. iiij d.—This curious morsel of abbreviated Latin, and uncouth Norman French, may perhaps intimate, that the church of Worksop is taxed at 40 marks; and they say, that the ninth part of the fleeces, the sheaves, and the sheep, pertaining to the same place, may be valued at 40 marks per annum; and the ninth part of all the hay and glebe, pertaining to the same, is valued at 23s. 4d. per annum: there are mortuaries, oblations, and other small tithes, valued, per annum, at 18 marks 3s. and 4d.

There had been a previous, and similar ecclesiastical taxation, begun about A. D. 1288, when Pope Nicholas IV. granted the tenths of ecclesiastical revenues, for two years, to Edward the First, for the support of an expedition to the Holy Land. The record of this levy has always been considered an important document, as all the taxes, as well to our kings as the Popes, were regulated by it, until the survey made in the 26th year of the reign of Henry the Eighth. As the items would appear out of place here, they will be given under the notices of the monastery with which they are more immediately connected.

#### THOMAS LORD FURNIVAL,

surnamed "The Hasty," succeeded his father, as son and heir, at the age of about 17, anno 1338. His grandmother, the heiress of Montacute, before-mentioned, dying about ten years after his accession to the title, the splendid endowments of her widowhood reverted to him. He married Joan, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas de Mountenoy, knight. This Thomas Lord Furnival was with his sovereign, Edward the Third, at the battle of Cressy, in 1341, from which he returned, and died, without issue, 1366, when

#### WILLIAM LORD FURNIVAL,

his brother, was found to be his heir. His wife was Thomasine, an heiress of the house of Dagworth, which had great possessions in Norfolk and Essex. He died, April 12, 1383, leaving a daughter, aged at least 14 years; his wife surviving him fifteen years: this was in the 10th year of the reign of Henry IV., when the king's escheater immediately took an account of her estates; and in the escheat-rolls of this date, we find the following entry:—"Thomasia quæ fuit uxor Willihelmi Furnival, chivaler. Wyrsoþ maner' ut de honore de Tykhill."

#### JOAN DE FURNIVAL.

daughter and heir of the above William, in whom the direct male line of his family terminated, was, as above-stated, according to the inquisition made at her father's death, above 14 years old at that period: she chose for her husband Sir Thomas Nevil, a younger brother of the first Earl of Westmoreland. By this alliance, although the blood and honours of her family were trans-



ferred to a new channel, the name was not lost; for her husband was immediately summoned to parliament by her title of Furnival. Surviving her, he took, for his second wife, Ankaret, who had been married to Richard Lord Talbot; thus allying himself incidentally to a name, in which his own was presently to merge, and by which the distinguished line of an illustrious ancestry was to be still more celebrated. By this latter-mentioned lady he had a daughter, three years old at her father's death, which happened "the Monday next before Palm-Sunday," anno 1406. He was buried in the priory church at Worksop, if according to his will, "without any great pomp."<sup>8</sup> By his will, which bears date March 12, 1406, after bequeathing his body to be buried as above, he gives the king his best cup of gold, with a cover: to the fabric of the steeple of Worksop, £40; and to John Talbot, and Maud his wife, his best bed, with all the furniture thereto;† besides something to the monastery, mentioned hereafter. The only issue of Sir Thomas Nevil, Lord Furnival, by his first wife, was Maud de Nevil, who was heir to her grandmother Thomasine, and then aged 17 years. This lady transferred the estates of her ancestors, to a new and noble family, by her marriage with

### JOHN TALBOT,

first Earl of Shrewsbury, a younger son of Richard Lord Talbot, by Ankeret le Strange, his wife. This nobleman was summoned to parliament by the style of John Talbot, of Hallamshire. This was the famous warrior, to whose prowess fame has attributed almost miraculous exploits: it is he whom our great dramatic bard has celebrated in his imperishable lines:—

"——— Valiant Talbot above human thought,  
Enacted wonders with his sword and lance;  
Hundreds he sent to hell, and none durst stand him:  
Here, there, and every where, enraged he flew.  
The French exclaimed, The Devil is in arms;  
All the whole army stood agazed on him.  
His soldiers, spying his undaunted spirit,  
A Talbot! A Talbot! cried out amain,  
And rushed into the bowels of the battle."

He was, however, slain at Chatillon, 20th July, 1453,‡ and afterwards buried at Whitchurch.

\* And the same year, [8 Henry IV.] says Dugdale, he departed this life, and was buried according to the directions of his will; a noble tomb of alabaster being afterwards erected over his remains. Thoroton says (quoting the chronicles of the priory,) "he was buried here most magnificently."—Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 392.

† Dugdale.

‡ An engraved portrait of this great earl, is given in the first volume of Mr. Lodge's Illustrations of British History,

from a very curious picture in the College of Arms. Granger mentions two other old portraits of this earl:—"JHON TALBOT, of the noble familie of Shrewsberrie," &c. A most curious print, with an ornamented border, in the Bodleian Library. It appears to be very ancient, and is much damaged. It is evidently the original of that in Andrew Thevet's "Lives," fol. 282. The date is "M. IIIC. XLIII." On the blade of the sword is this barbarous inscription; "Sum Talbotti pro vincere inimico meo;" others give it, "Inimicos meos." After a summary of his history, under the portrait, it is said, "His portraiture, as I represent it to you, was taken out of the palace which the said John Talbot

in Shropshire. It is said that his sword was found many years after his death, in the river Dor dan, near Bourdeaux, having this inscription:—

Sum Talboti. M. IIII. a. XLIII.  
Pro vincere inimico meo.\*

This John Talbot was twice married, and what is remarkable, seems to have had a son, named after himself, by each of his wives, living at the same time; for John Talbot, Viscount Lisle, the issue of his second nuptials, with Margaret Beauchamp, was slain with his father at the above fatal battle, while

### JOHN TALBOT,

the issue of his first marriage, with Maud Nevil, succeeded to the title, as second Earl of Shrewsbury.† He was, says Thoroton,‡ a most excellent young man, and most like his ancestors. Like his father, he was a warrior, and a partisan of Henry the Sixth, in the height of those unhappy contentions between the houses of York and Lancaster, which so long distracted this country. He fell in the battle of Northampton, 10th July, 1460, and with him his brother, Sir Christopher Talbot; war, in this, as in the former instance, not being content with a single victim from this family in the same battle. His body, however, was brought to Worksop, and there honourably interred; a monument being subsequently erected to his memory, with inscriptions in prose and verse.§

At the latter end of this year, and a few days before the great battle of Wakefield, there was a fight or skirmish at Worksop, which does not appear to be noticed by any of the chroniclers, besides William of Worcester, who states, that the Duke of York, with the Earl of Salisbury, and many thousand armed men, going from London to York in December, 1460, a portion of his men, the van, as is supposed, or perhaps the scouts, to the number of \* \* \* [Here was an hiatus in the MS., from which Hearne printed.] were cut off by the people of the Duke of Somerset at Worksop.¶ The stain which the white rose here received, was only a premonition

had built." Pictures of this earl, and his consort, are in the gallery of Castle-Ashby, in Northamptonshire, and judged, by Mr. Walpole, to be the most ancient oil painting in England.—*Biog. Hist. Eng.* vol. i. p. 51. 5th edit.

\* Camden's Remains, 4to. p. 328.

† John appears to have been a favourite name in this family. George, the fourth earl, had two sons by his first countess, successively baptized John, who both died in infancy; and by his second wife, he had a son John, who also died young. I was led to question the singular fact stated in the text, but on mentioning it to a learned genealogist, he assured me, that "Nothing of the kind can be more certain, than that John,

the first Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, had two sons living at the same time, both named John; though this fact is differently represented in one of the early editions of the Peerage." Thoroton mentions a similar instance in another family. "There were two Raphs, sons of Raph de Frecheville, [of Stavely] the elder whereof settled on the younger, about 10 Edward III., the manor of Palterton."—*Thoroton*, vol. i. p. 87.

‡ Vol. i. p. 222.

§ Copied in a subsequent page.

¶ Hearne's *Liber Niger*, p. 484, Lingard, perhaps the only one of our historians who has noticed this skirmish, dates

of what was to follow; the Duke of York himself being slain in the unequal fight at Wakefield, on the 31st December 1460. The last-mentioned John Talbot, who, with his brother, fell in the Lancastrian cause, had married Elizabeth Butler, daughter of James, Earl of Ormond, by whom he had a numerous family, of which his eldest son,

JOHN TALBOT,

succeeded to the title, as third Earl of Shrewsbury. He was born on the eve of St. Luke, and his nativity, if we may believe monkish tradition, was not unattended by preternatural recognition; for, according to the annals of the monastery of Worksop, a simple canon, at the time of his birth, heard a celestial voice singing—

Gloria in excelsis  
Deo et angelis.\*

“He was,” says Mr. Hunter,† “a very different character from his father and grandfather. He was more devoted to literature and the muses, than to politics and arms.” Not, however, that he was a recreant from the military spirit of his family; for, when scarcely 14, he was at the second battle of St. Alban’s, and was knighted by Prince Edward.‡ He married Catharine Stafford, daughter of Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham, by whom he had three children. He died in the prime of life, at Coventry, anno 1473, and was buried in the Lady Chapel, at Worksop. He was succeeded by his son and heir,

GEORGE TALBOT,

the fourth Earl of Shrewsbury, at the time of his father’s death, only five years of age, and in ward to William Lord Hastings. This nobleman, as was not uncommon in cases of wardship, contracted his daughter Ann, in marriage with the juvenile heir of Talbot; and by his will, he makes this farther matrimonial provision in favour of his family; that, should Earl George die, before the consummation of this marriage with his daughter; then his brother Thomas Talbot should take her to wife, if allowable by the law of the church.§ He lived, however, to enjoy domestic happiness with this lady, and, moreover, to take unto himself a second spouse, who was the daughter and co-heir of Sir Richard Walden, of Erith, in Kent, knight. This earl was a

it December 2; and, after mentioning the army assembled at York, by the Earl of Northumberland, the Lords Clifford, Dacres, and Nevil, in conjunction with the Duke of Somerset, and Earl of Devon, and their tenants, he says,—“This union alarmed the victorious party. York and Salisbury hastened to anticipate their designs; and though Somerset surprised the vanguard of the Yorkists at Worksop, they reached, before

Christmas, the strong castle of Sandal.—*Hist. Eng.* vol. v. p. 221, 8vo. edit.

\* Metrical Chronicles, hereafter cited.

† Hallamshire, p. 47.

‡ *Ibid.*

§ Baronage, vol. i. p. 585.

warrior, and, in his youth, appeared at the battle of Stoke; and was afterwards entrusted by Henry VII. with the command of an army against Charles, King of France: and, in 1513, he commanded the van of the English army at the siege of Therouenne. His life, however, extended into peaceable times; and he was, as Thoroton expresses it, "a great man with Henry the Eighth."

In 1516, the earl appears to have been in the country sick, and spending his time at Worksop, Wingfield, or Sheffield manors, but chiefly at the latter. His confidential friend and chaplain, Sir Thomas Allen, was his agent and newsmonger in London: and many of his letters to his master, are among the Talbot Papers, published by Mr. Lodge. Part of his business was to dance attendance upon, and catch the sentiments of the insolent Wolsey, now in the zenith of his power, and in reverence of whose haughty bearing, Shrewsbury seems to have deputed himself with sufficient meekness. The agency of the priest, however, extended to other matters; as, from the Talbot letters, as well as other evidence, it appears that good bargain-making\* was not deemed incompatible, either with the functions of the ecclesiastic, or the dignity of the peer.

The earl, having at this time a design to purchase some of the abbey-lands of Mountgrace, commissioned Sir Thomas Allen to make some inquiries concerning the same: the faithful priest writes as follows:—"Please it your lordship to be ascertained, that whereas Mastr. Babyngton and I, by yor com'andm't, have concluded wt my Lord Conyers, hit is so the P'or of Mounge's stands in possession of the said lands, and hath leaseys made to his use of the same; notwithstanding, my Lord Conyers trustyd to have caused the said p'or to have releised his title at his desyr, but yn anywise he wolnot. The king's gc'e hath sequestered cc. acres of the said land, that payth yearly xiii s. iii d., wiche the eschequier thynks to be moche better. Mastr. Babyngton hath spoke with the said p'or: They have appoynted bothe to be wt yor lordship at Worsop the Wednesday yn the Witsonday weke, wiche shalbe the xiiii<sup>th</sup> day of this moneth. My lord, I suppose ye shall have an easier bargain of the p'or, than ye shulde have had of my Lord Conyers; for the said p'or shewed unto Mastr. Babyngton, he had nevr of the said lands, all charges born, by the yere iii l.

"Upon Friday last Mastr. Babyngton and I spoke wt my Lord Cardynal, and shewyd unto his g'ce yor trouble, and sykness, and the late dep'ting of yor servants; and also this day Mastr. Babyngton spoke unto his g'ce again, to know his pleasure yf he wold coma'd hym any s'vice unto yor lordship. He answered, reco'mend me unto my lord; I have shewyd the king's g'ce of my lord's trouble; his gr'ce is right sorry therefor, and counsels hym to get hym ynto some litell

\* It was not uncommon, at this period, for nobleman to be engaged in speculations of trade. The earl was a great dealer in lead, having an interest in the mines of Derbyshire. The following extract will shew what price it bore at this time, 1517. Allen observes,—“I have made a bargain wt Sir

John Cut, [master of the ordnance in the Tower] for xxs. fodrs. lead, [a fother was about 2,000 lb.] to be delyv' at London betwix this & Bartholometide, at iiii lb. ii s. viii d. the fod' yf yor lordship be so content, or ellis hit is no bargain.”—*Talbot Papers*, vol. P. f. 19.

housse, & few p'sons wt him: Wherefor, less than yor lordship be co'mandid to com up, I think not contrary, your excuse is so reasonable, you may unto Mychelmas time."\*

Whether the meeting above referred to, took place at Worksop, or not, does not appear, nor is the question of any importance. The earl, in a letter, written soon after the above, to Allen, after thanking him for some baked meats, and instructing him to disburse to a messenger 240 "crownes of the sonne," for the purchase of hangings at Tournay, adds,—“Also, Sr. Thomas, I have spoke wt Thomas Babyngton, and he thinketh best that you be not too hasty in knowing my Lord Cardynallis plesure tochyng my comyng up to London, excepte he speike unto you hymselfe of the same, and then ye may make myne excuse the best ye can; for I am now at this tyme far owt of all good ordre, as well in s'vants, as in horss, for to come to London, or to ryde any other greatt journey.” He afterwards intimates to Allen, that he need not mention this, unless the cardinal should speak about his coming to London. “Nevertheless,” says he, “I wol that ye resorte often unto hym, and be in his sight, to loke whether he wol com'ande you any s'vice to me.”† This is but a slight specimen of that obsequiousness of rank to power, which the influence of Wolsey exacted: he had his feet on the necks of most of the nobility, by which elevation he appeared only inferior to the sovereign himself,—a dangerous approximation, when that sovereign was Henry the Eighth. Without questioning the integrity of Shrewsbury's devotion to the cardinal, we cannot but pity the obsequiousness, which exhibits him as so solicitous to ascertain the capricious will of the favourite: but haughtiness of power frequently works its own downfall; and the history of Wolsey is an exemplification of this truth, no less familiar than striking.

Worksop has had the honour, if honour it may be called, of having been visited by, and of offering entertainment to that sumptuous prelate: but it was at a period when tribulation and anguish were coming upon him to the uttermost, it was when he was on his journey to Cawood, in Yorkshire, in 1530, which proved the last year of his life. The evidence of this visit, is contained in the following interesting extract from *Cavendish's Life of Wolsey*:—

“Then, my lord, (*i. e.* Wolsey,) intending the next day to remove from thence (Newstead Abbey,) there resorted to him the Earl of Shrewsbury's keeper, and gentlemen, sent from him, to desire my lord, in their master's behalf, to hunt in a parke of their maister's, called Worsoppe Parke, which was even at hand, and the nearest and best way for my lord to travail through in his journey, where was much plenty of game, that was laid for him in a readiness to have. Howbeit he thanked bothe my lord, their maister, for his gentleness, and them for their paines; and then said, he was a man not meete to receive any such pleasure, for such pastime was mete for men of honnour, that delighted themselves therein, for whom, he said, it was more convenient, than for him. Nevertheless, he could doe no less than thinke my Lord of Shrewsbury to be much his friend, in whom he found such gentleness and noble offer; and rendered also to him his most

\* Talbot Papers, vol. A. f. 31.

† *Ibid.* vol. P. f. 25.

lowly thanks, from the very bottom of his harte. But in nowise could they entreat him to hunt. Although the worshipful men in his company did much provoke him thereto, yet he would not consent, desiring them to be contented; saying, that he came not into the country to frequent or follow any such pleasures or pastimes, but rather to attend to a greater care, that he had in hand, which was both his study and pleasure. And with such reasons and persuasions he pacified them for the time. Howbeit, as he rode through the parke, both my Lord of Shrewsbury's servants, and also the aforesaid gentlemen, moved him once again, before whome the deare lay verie faire for all purposes of pleasure. But it would not auaile: and therefore he made as much spede through the parke as he could. And, at the issue out he called the gentlemen, and my Lord of Shrewsbury's keepers, unto him, desiring them to commend him to my lord their master, thanking him for his most honourable offer, trusting shortly to visit him at his own house: and gave the keepers fortie shillings, for their rewarde in conducting him through the parke: and so rode to dinner to another abbey, called Rufford Abbey."

The trust expressed by the unfortunate cardinal, about visiting the Earl of Shrewsbury at his own house, was soon after realised, but not in the manner which he might have expected. At the latter end of the above year, 1530, the Earl of Northumberland, Shrewsbury's son-in-law, was sent to arrest the cardinal at Cawood,\* and, moreover, to deliver him into the custody of the Earl of Shrewsbury. In pursuance and execution of these orders, the dejected prelate was brought to Sheffield manor, where he arrived, with his retinue, on Tuesday, November 8th. He was received at this mansion with all possible courteousness; the earl, and his countess, and the whole household, standing without the gates, to give him welcome; and nothing was wanting, on the earl's part, to induce the cardinal to regard himself as a voluntary guest, rather than a prisoner. He remained at Sheffield 16 or 18 days, from whence he proceeded on his journey towards Leicester abbey, where he died.†

This earl almost entirely re-edified, if he did not found the above-mentioned lodge, or manor, as it is called, in Sheffield Park; the ruins of which at present spread over two or three acres of ground. The writer of these pages may be pardoned for indulging a home recollection in this place. Within a few hundred yards of the above mansion, he was born: its ruins was the cradle of his earliest associations and feelings in poetry: the park, in which it stands, was the theme of his first publication;‡ and the winds and the storms, that, through successive years, accelerated the total *ruination even of the ruins* of this summer mansion of the Talbots, rocked into antiquarian reverence those feelings, which became powerfully re-excited, in connexion with that noble family, when the writer first beheld the works, and perused the memorials of their ancestors at Worksop.

\* Cawood Castle; one of the seats belonging to the Archbishop of York, about 12 miles distant from that city; where, says a biographer, "by his pious and prudent behaviour, and his great hospitality, he acquired much honour, love, and esteem, from persons of every description."—*Fiddes's Life of Wolsey*, p. 521.

† Hallamshire, p. 50.

‡ "SHEFFIELD PARK; a descriptive Poem. By John Holland. 1820."

This earl, in consideration of the cession of his Irish estates to the crown, had a considerable grant of abbey lands from Henry the Eighth; who, by letters patent, bearing date October 6, in the 29th year of his reign, "in consideration, that, by an act of his parliament, held at Dublin, in the kingdom of Ireland, the 1st of May, in the 28th year of his reign, the castles, lordships, honors, hundreds, and lands, &c. of George, Earl of *Shrewsbury* and *Waterford*, within that kingdom, were settled on the crown; and, being unwilling to diminish the state, honour, and dignity of the said earl, he granted the scite of *Rufford*, and all his lordships, manors, and granges of *Rufford*, *Eker-ing*, *Bildisthorp*, *Warsop*, *Walesby*, *Allerton*, *Wellugh*, *Nottingham*, *Almeton*, *Kirsale*, *Mapulbek*, *Besthorp*, *Boughton*, *Kelham*, *Codington*, *Parkelathes*, *Kirketon*, *Sterthorpe*, *Est Retford*, *Holme*, *Foxholes*, *Lytilbrough*, *Rohagh*, *Southwell*, and *Morton*, in this county; and his lordship of *Rotherham*, and lands there; and in *Thurleston*, *Charlecotes*, and *Wynleden*, in *Yorkshire*; with the rectory and patronage of the vicarage of *Rotherham*; and all his lands in *Brampton*, *Birchfield*, *Abney*, *Chesterfield*, *Shirbroke*, and *Glossopdale*, in *Derbyshire*, with the rectory of *Glossopdale*; and advowson of the vicarage, late belonging to the Abbey of *Bayswark*, in *Wales*, in the county of *Flint*, as they came to his hands, by reason and pretext of a certain act, of dissolving religious houses, &c. &c., with all their appurtenances; and lands in *Albourne*, and *Dudmandale alias Barton*, in *Leicestershire*, late also belonging to *Rufford*; and all lands wheresoever, whercof Thomas Dancaister, late Abbat of *Rufford*, was seised, in right of his said monastery; all which were of the clear yearly value of £246 15s. 5d. sterling, and no more, to the said earl, his heirs, and assigns, for the tenth part of a knight's fee, and £46 15s. 5d. into the court of augmentations for tenths."

The earl did not suffer his attachment to the Catholic religion, to prevent him from accepting this ample endowment of its spoils: nor, when the adherents of that religion suffered their zeal for its restoration to involve them in a rebellion against the monarch, did he suffer his private sentiments to weigh against the public good, and his duty to the state.\*

On the suppression of the lesser monasteries in 1536, many persons were much alarmed at the operations of the monarch in respect of the religious. A formidable insurrection was raised in the north of England; and the malcontents, headed by Robert Aske, a person of abilities, were assuming a menacing aspect, when the Earl of Shrewsbury, then in his 68th year, once more buckled on his armour, and, without waiting for the king's commission, joined himself with the

\* There appears to have been a notion prevalent amongst some of the followers of the old earl, while in the north, that, as he was a Catholic, he might not be very sincere in his desire to suppress an imposing power of 40,000 men, avowedly collected for the restoration of the old religion. The knowledge of this rather troubled the noble earl; and, to persuade them to the contrary, "he caused the multitude of his soldiers to come before him, and there declared to them, that he understood what lewd talke had been raised of his meaning among them in the campe, as he favoured the part of the rebels. But, said

he, 'whatsoever their colourable pretense may be, true it is, that traitors they are in this their wicked attempt. And whereas my ancestors have been ever true to the crown, I mean not to stain my blood now in joining with such a sort of traitors, but to live and die in defence of the crowne, if it stood but upon a stake: and therefore, those that will take my part in the quarrel, I have to thank them; and, if there be anie that be otherwise minded, I would wish them hence.'"—*Wainwright's Staff. and Tick. Introd.* p. cxiii. note.

Duke of Norfolk, in the dispersion of the insurgents. He was, however, presently assured of the king's approbation, by a letter from the secretary Cromwell; the following extract from which, may not be uninteresting, as exhibiting a specimen of the epistolary spirit of great statesmen in those times:—"After my most hertye recomendacyons, this shalbe to advyse the same of the receipt of yor honorable l'res; the sight whereof, wt the demonstracyon of yor nobyl courage and trowthe, hath so co'ffortyd me, that whylys I lyve, and yf I might, after my death, I wool and wolde honour yow and yor posteryte, as the man and most worthy earl that ever servyd a pryncce, and such a chefftayn, as ys worthye eternal glorie. My lorde, I assure you, I wrytt this wt my veray hart; and I pray God to gyve me sune occasyon to doo yow plessure whyll ye lyve, and to yor posteryte, yf I outlive you. I wold ye knew, as well as I, how the king's highness reputyth yor most acceptable & loyall s'vyce, which ye shall right well p'sayve by the tenor of his gracyous l'res to you, dyrectyd at this time. My lord, all such habylments and muynystions for the warrys, which ye wrote for, wt money plentye, ys alredye uppon the wey towardes yow, & shall, God willing, be wt yow shortlye. And thus o'r Lorde send yor lordshypp, as long lyf, and aswell to fare, as I wold wysh, and then ye should be in good helth, and but xxx<sup>th</sup> yeres of age. Wryttyn at Wyndesor, the xth daye of Octobre, anno H. viii. xxviii, wt the hastye and layserles hande of hym that ys yours in hert,\*



The minister little foresaw his own fate, when he thus spoke of the earl's posterity: "the fashion of the reign," brought him to the block, in less than four years afterwards.

This was the last public service of the earl, who, full of years and honours, closed a life of 70 years, July 26, 1538, at Winfield manor, and was buried in the chapel, which he had built, in the church at Sheffield, and where he lies ensculptured in effigy between his two countesses. Mr. Hunter very justly supposes,† that, foreseeing the destruction to which the memorials of his ancestors, in the Abbey Church of Worksop, seemed to be destined, from the course of events, he very naturally prepared for his remains the less splendid, but more certain sanctuary, in St. Peter's, at Sheffield, and which became thenceforward the burying place of the family. He was succeeded, in his titles and estates, by his son by his first wife, who was

#### FRANCIS TALBOT,

the fifth earl of Shrewsbury, born at Sheffield, anno 1500. Henry VIII. gave him this character—"He is a gentle gentleman, wise, and of good coourage:" and Lloyd, in his *State Worthies*, declares, that "he was at once the chiefest counsellor, and the most eminent scholar, of his age."‡

\* Talbot Papers, vol. A. f. 57.

† Hallamshire, p. 54.

‡ *Ibid.* p. 55.



He lived to witness the dissolution of the superior religious houses, with such feelings, as probably might actuate the greater number of the representatives of the old Catholic families: and if there appear some fluctuations in his conduct during this uncertain crisis of the reformation, he may be supposed to be less deserving of individual censure, when it is recollected how many persons of character and parts, yielded to the setting or receding tide of circumstances.

This noble earl was summoned to the House of Peers,\* during the lifetime of his father, whom he succeeded, as lieutenant-general of the north. On the 17th May, 1545, he was installed a knight of the garter. An original letter, written to him on that occasion, by Henry VIII., is, according to Mr. Lodge, still extant in the archives of the College of Arms:—

“ *Henry VIII.*”

“ Right trusty and right welbeloved cousein and counseiller, we grete you well: acerteynyng you, that, in consideration, as well of your approved treuthe and fidellitie, as also of yor knightly courage and vallyaunte actes, wt other your probable merites, experiently knowen in sundry behalfe; we, with our compaignions of the noble order of the Gartier, assembled at ellection, holden this daye, at our house of Sainte James, by Westmester, have ellecte and chosen you, amongeste, other, to be oone of the compaignions of the sayde order, as your sayde merytes condignely requyre: And therefore we will, that, with all conveniente diligence, upon the sight hereof, you addresse you unto our presence, to receive such things as to the saide order apperteinethe. Yeven under our signet, at our saide house, the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> day of Aprell, the xxxvii<sup>th</sup> yere of our reigne.

“ *To our right trustie and right welbeloved cousin and counsaillor th’  
Erle of Shreusbury, our lieutenant-generall in the North Parts.*”†

Having been in favour with King Henry, and having received from him considerable grants of abbey lands, including the site of the dissolved monastery at Worksop, which had been founded by his ancestors: he was also one of the thirteen mourners at the funeral of this monarch. On the death of Edward VI. in 1553, he was chief mourner at the royal funeral. He was, however, concerned in the proclamation of Queen Mary, at whose court he was in high favour. On her death, he concurred, no less willingly, in the accession of Elizabeth, who admitted him of her

\* He was present at the passing of the act for the dissolution of the greater religious houses, 31 Henry VIII. Spelman, in his “*History of Sacrilege*,”—a curious work, in which he exhibits evidence, on the position, that the participators in the spoils of the monasteries, incurred the signal judgment of heaven, in general, appears to refer the extinction of the male

line of this Francis, in his grandson Edward, to a judicial chastisement, for the share he might have in that transaction.—*Hist. of Sacrilege*, p. 209.

† Lodge, vol. i. p. xiii. Introd.

privy council, and continued him in other high offices;\* rather, it is suspected, out of courtesy, than from love, as he remained a conscientious Catholic; and of the whole body of the temporal peers, who had so lately and unanimously subscribed to Mary's recognition of the Papal authority, only this nobleman, and Viscount Montague, could now be found to oppose the revocation of that concession. He died, 21st September, 1560, at Sheffield manor, and was interred, with splendid funeral ceremonies† in the vault, which his father had prepared, at Sheffield. He had married, for his first wife, Mary, daughter of Thomas, Lord Dacre, of Gillesland; and, for his second, Grace,‡ the daughter of Robert Shakerley, of Holme, in the county of Chester, Esq. His son by his first wife, now became his heir, and was

### GEORGE TALBOT,

the sixth Earl; like his father, he was twice married, first to Gertrude Manners, daughter of Thomas, Earl of Rutland, and afterwards to Elizabeth, daughter to John Hardwick, of Hardwick, in the county of Derby, Esq., and sister and co-heir of James Hardwick, of the same place. This lady, so famous in the annals of matrimony for her splendid alliances, and in the history of this house, for the infelicitous ascendancy of her sex, was married, first to Robert Barlow, of Barlow, near Dronfield, Esq.: her aspiration in second nuptials made her the wife of Sir William Cavendish, of Chatsworth, Knight. On the death of this nobleman, she contracted herself in third nuptials with Sir William Saint Loe, captain of the guard to Queen Elizabeth: he died, leaving her again a widow, with a reputation for wit and beauty, to which she was probably sufficiently entitled. With these commanding attractions, united to an address which could be exceeded only by her ambition, it is not surprising that the Lady St. Loe, should address herself to new matrimonial

\* Hallamshire, p. 56, and Lodge, vol. i. Introd. p. xiv.

† A very exact and curious account of this funeral, may be found in Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa*, p. 252.

‡ Of the affection which this lady expressed towards her husband, and the interest which she took in his success, during his absence in the north, the following letter, (*Lodge*, vol. i. p. 184,) written by her to the earl, may be adduced as evidence:—"After my moste herte com'endaco's unto your good lordships, the same shalbe advertessed, that yester nyght, as the Quene's Ma'tie came from evensonge, wch were songe in the chapell, by all the synginge men of the same, wt playing of the organes, of the solomeste manr, her hyghness called me unto her, & asked me when yor L. roode towards the northe; & when I had told her g'oe, she held up her hands, & besought God to send you good successe in her affaires in that cu'treye (wt mawyne other other good & c'fortabe words towards yor L., to longe to wryte,) wherby I perceyve her hyghness to be somewhat dowful of the quietnes of that cu'treye. Wherefore, good my lord, let her hyghness have a letter frome yow, as sone as yow come to Yorke, of the

state of the cu'treye there abowts, and howe they take her grace's new s'rvyce, wherwyth her hyghness much rejoyses to here her subjects well pleased. And after that, by reason the warrante for yor com'ission for the p'sydeneshipe were not signed, I moved her g'ce for yt; and she were sorye it were so long delayed; and strayght way comandid my Lord of Arundell to send to my Lord Chaunsler for it, and so signed it streyghtway. . . . Whatever things shall chaunce here worthye adv'tysem't, yor L. shall be sewre to here from me from tyme to tyme, by the g'ce of o'r Lord, who send you longe good helthe. From Richemownte, this iii<sup>de</sup> days of September, 1553.

Yor L.' lovinge wyffe,



conquests, nor, indeed, that she should be successful. "In an evil hour," says Mr. Hunter,\* "the Earl of Shrewsbury made proposals of marriage. Before she would consent to be raised to the bed of the first peer of the realm, she stipulated, that he should give his daughter to her eldest son; and that Gilbert Talbot, his second son (the eldest being already married,) should espouse her youngest daughter. These double nuptials were celebrated at Sheffield on the 9th of February, 1567-8." The illustrious halo, which great names, and high alliances, might be supposed to shed around this remarkable instance of marriage-mongering, has not prevented posterity from knowing, that it became a most fruitful and vexatious source of family unhappiness.

The earl had not been long in the possession of his ancestral domains, before a serious dispute arose between him and his tenants. Among the numerous services which the laws of the feudal system allowed the lord paramount to exact of those who held of him by *tenancy in capite*, was an aid in money on the marriage of the lord's eldest daughter, and which is called, in the old law books, *ayde par pur file marcier*. This benevolence, which appears to have become obsolete, was demanded by the Earl of Shrewsbury, towards marrying his eldest daughter Catharine to the Earl of Pembroke. The barbarous yoke of feudalism, seems, at this period, to have galled the shoulders of the people, and the spirit of manly independence to have begun to arouse and shake itself. His tenantry in the north resisted this claim; whereupon his servant, Edward Hatfield, wrote to the earl for counsel, and received the following reply:—

"After my hartie com'endacons," says Shrewsbury, in a letter dated March 20, 1562, "where I p'ceave by yor l'res the fruitless and unadvised answers of my freeholders w'thin Hallomshire, and other places, touchinge theire relefe, or lawful ayde wch they ought to paye unto me at the mariage of my dowghter; I have thereof no little mervaille, considering that at their handes I do desire no more then of right they owe, and but that wch the laws of this realm dothe both gyve me, and will compell them to paye, as all my learned counsaile have fully resolved with me: whereof throughout all Shropshire, and other places where my lands do lye, I have not been so ansered as most neerest home, albeit the cace, through long sufferance, be growne to as greate doubte emongs them as where you have beene. Wherefore, I woll ye declare unto suche as you shall think most expedyent of them, that I am determynd by lawe to constrayne those obstynate p'sons to paye that which by fair means I have demanded, and wolde thankfullye have recyved at their hands; wch being declared, you may staye yor farther dealing with them, and you shall eftsoons heare from me therein, which ye shall verie shortlye."† Whether Worksop was one of the refractory places, does not appear; the demurrers, however, seem soon afterwards to have been subdued to a compliance with the Earl's demand, for a list, or "breve note," of the places, with the amount of their contrjbutions, is still extant among the Talbot papers, and in which "Worksopp, cum Membr," stands for £28:12:8d., which is the largest sum, with a single exception, paid by any of the twenty places mentioned in the entry. These claims, with the other impositions of the feudal system, ended with the abolition of tenures *in capite*, by the Act of 12 c. 2.

\* Hallamshire, p. 62.

† Lodge, vol. i. p. 347.

Shrewsbury on his part, appears to have been not very anxious to discharge obligations to the crown, arising out of the same system which allowed him to compel the benevolence of his freeholders. Worksop, as we have seen, was from the first a member of the Honour of Tickhill, being surveyed in Domesday among the lands of De Busli, in consequence of which it became chargeable with certain impositions in behalf of that fee. Strype\* gives an extract of a letter, from Sir Ralph Saddler, Chancellor of the Dutchy of Lancaster, and George Bromley, to the Earl of Shrewsbury, dated 1st March, 1575, calling upon him to pay the relief on his father's death, of 100 shillings each knight's fee, and also the annal rent of 6s. 8d. for each knight's fee for Worksop, held of the Castle and Honour of Tickhill, as five knight's fees: or, "if he found any good matter for the discharge thereof, to send some one to satisfy the court of the Dutchy in that behalf." This Earl was knighted of the garter, by Queen Elizabeth, and the following letter, excusing him from attending the grand feast of the order, which used annually to be held at Windsor, on St. George's day, is still extant among the Talbot papers, under the sign-manual of the sovereign:—

“  


“ Right trustie and right wel-bilovid cousyn, we grete you well. Forasmuch as it hath ben declared unto us on your behalf, that, for certain your urgent and necessary busynes, your request is to be dispensed of your cumming to the feast of St. George now next cumming, we late you wite that we are pleased to graunt unto you yor sayd request, and by thies p'nts do lisencc you to be absent from the sayd feast; and thies our l'res shal be your sufficient warrant and dischardge on that behalf. Yeven under our seale of our order, the first day of Aprill, 1566, the eight year of our reign.

“ *To our right trusty and right wel-belovoid cousyn the Erle of Sherowsbury, companion of our order of the garter.*”†

Of the most inviolate and unimpeachable integrity to the crown, few families can exhibit more unequivocal testimony than the house of Talbot. It frequently, however, happens, that the

\* Strype's Annals, vol. ii. p. 390.

† Lodge, vol. i. p. 362.

confidence of the sovereign may devolve upon the favourite, duties and responsibilities, seldom favourable to the popularity, and not unfrequently destructive of the peace and safety of the elevated individual: delicate and difficult as the circumstances under which various members of this family have been constrained to act, yet it has come down to us almost free from stain, in its collective and individual character.

To the grandfather of this earl, we have before seen, that Henry the Eighth directed the custody of the most powerful subject in the realm, when he had fallen under the displeasure of that capricious monarch. To the integrity of this earl, the daughter of that king confided a still more important prisoner—the sister of her blood, and the rival of her throne. With the history of the beautiful, the unfortunate, and the celebrated Queen of Scots, the memoirs of George, the sixth Earl of Shrewsbury, are most intimately associated. The story of her life, and the catastrophe of her death, are generally known; and the annals of the 15 years, which she spent in the custody of Shrewsbury, are amongst the most interesting papers of Mr. Hunter's "Hallamshire." This account is too long for extract, and too entire to admit of abridgement; nor is it necessary to pursue the history of Mary, with circumstantial minuteness, in this place. One thing, however, must not be passed over in silence,—I mean the generally received opinion, that the royal exile, during her migrations to and from the various northern seats of her guardian, spent some little time at Worksop. In support of this presumed fact, not altogether uninteresting to the people in the neighbourhood, the evidence, although but incidental, is sufficient to satisfy Mr. Hunter, that "she was allowed to visit Shrewsbury's seat at Worksop." This was in 1583, and in the 16th year of her captivity, when her harassed and eventful existence was drawing towards a close. The early part of the year was spent in a series of those negotiations, so incessant and fruitless on her part, and so little satisfactory on the part of Elizabeth; and, among the numerous epistles in the Talbot Papers, which shew the extreme watchfulness of the earl over his prisoner, there is one to Baldwin, of the 3d of November, this year, denying, that while she was at Worksop, she had been permitted to walk in Sherwood Forest.\*

During this long and unprofitable consumption of so considerable a portion of the earl's life, through which period, he was, in fact, as much the prisoner of his own house, as the lady of his charge: he was, in addition to the irksomeness and danger of this duty, harassed by the dissensions of his family and the importunities of his wife. As exhibiting some characteristic traits in

\* Talbot Papers, vol. G. f. 225. It does not appear at what season this visit of the Queen to Worksop took place. Lodge's voluminous collection of letters contains only a single epistle under this year, which shews that Shrewsbury was at Sheffield in May. Mr. Hunter (p. 89) gives a long and curious letter from Gilbert and Mary Talbot, to the old Countess

of Shrewsbury, which describes the earl as being at Worksop in 1583. He appears, indeed, to have visited this, his Nottinghamshire seat, in previous years, after the Scottish Queen was confided to his care, as, in October 1575, and August 1577.—*Hallamshire*, pp. 86, 88.

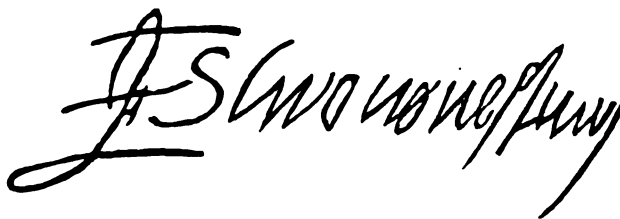
the disposition of this lady, the following letter, though on trifling subjects, and without date, may not be uninteresting:—

“ MY DEARE HARTE,

“ I have sende your letters agene, and thanke you for them: they requyre no ansere; but, when you wryte, remember to thank hym for them. If you cane not gett my teimber caryed, I moste be w'thout yt, tho I gretely wante yt; but yf yt wolde plesse you to comand Hebert, or any other, to move your tenantes to brynge yt, I knowe they wyll not denye to do yt. I preye you lette me knowe yf I shall have the tone of iron: yf you cane not spare yt, I muste make shefte to gette yt elsewhere, for I may not now wante it. You promysed to sende me money afore thys tyme, to by oxxen, but I se, out of syght, out of mynde, wt you.

“ My sone Gelberte hath bene vary yll yn hys hede ever sence he came frome Shefelde: I thynke yt ys hys ould dyseasse: he ys nowc, I thank God, somewhat better, and she very well. I wyll sende you the byll of my wode stoffe: I prey you lett yt be sent to Joue, that he may be sure to resaive all: I thank you for takynge order for the caryage of it to Hardwycke: yf you wolde comande your wagener myght bryng yt thether, I thynke yt wolde be saffelest caryed. Here ys nether malte nor hoppes. The malte cume last ys so vary yll and stynkenge, as Haukes thynkes none of my workemen wyll drynke yt. Shewe this letter to my frende, and then returne yt. I thynke you wyll take no dyschardge at Sowche's\* hands, nor the rest: you may worke styll in dysspyte of them: the law ys on your syde. Yt cannot be but that you shall have the Quene's consente to remove hether; therfor, yf you wolde have thyngs yn redyness for your provysyon, you myght the soner come: Come ether afore medsommer, or not thys yere; for any provysyon you have yet, you myght have come as well at Ester as at thys day: Here is yet no maner of provysyon more than a lytel drenke, whyche makes me to thynke you mynde not to come. God sende my jewell helthe.

Your faythefull wyffe,



“ *Saterday Morning.*

“ I have sent you letys, for that you love them; and ever seconde day some ys sente to your charge and you. I have nothyng else to sende. Lette me here how you, your charge *and love*, dothe, and comende me, I prey you. Yt were well you cente fore or fyve peces of the great

\* Mr. Lodge supposes, that this letter was probably written in 1577, when the earl was engaged in a dispute with Sir

John Zouch, about his lead mines in Derbyshire.—*Lodge*, vol. ii. p. 168.

hangengs, that they might be put oup, and some carpetes. I wyshe you wollde have thynges yn that redyness, that you myght come w'tin iii or foure dayes after you here from courte. Wryte to Balwene, to calle on my Lorde Tresorare, for ansere of your leters."

This lady seems to have been influenced by the most unfeeling selfishness in her conduct towards the royal prisoner, whom she suspected, seemingly with very little reason, of acquiring some undue ascendancy in the heart of Shrewsbury. It was probably from her known hatred to Mary, that the countess obtained so much credit with Queen Elizabeth, and which credit she seems to have used to the dishonour of her husband, and especially to obtain from him sums of money, obediences, and settlements of land. In several of his letters, to the Earl of Leicester, and others, we find Shrewsbury exhibited in the bitterness of his spirit. "Her ma'tie (says he) hath set downe this hard sentence agaynst me, to my perpetual infamy and dishonour, to be ruled and overranne by my wief, so bad and wicked a woman; yet her ma'tie shall see that I will obey her com'andment, though no curse or plage in the erth cold be more grevous to me." Shrewsbury's devotion to Elizabeth, appears to have been sincere enough; and she, in return, did not fail to acknowledge his merit, by some of those flattering testimonials, so peculiar to the maiden queen. On one occasion, Shrewsbury complains to Lord Burghley, not only that it was five weeks since he heard from him, but likewise that he had had the discomfort to hear that her majesty had been sick of the small-pox, and he had not received any certain tidings of her recovery; and then expresses a wish to have a word or two, for his greater comfort, in Elizabeth's own hand-writing. The queen, four days afterwards, replied to his letter, by her secretary, and added, with her own hand, the following curious postscript:—

"MY FAITHFUL SHREWSBURY,

"Let no grief touch your hearte for feare of my disease; for, I assure you, if my creadit were not greater than my shewe, ther is no beholdar wold beleve that I had bin touched with such a maladye.

"Your faitheful loveinge souveraine,

"ELIZABETH R."

In the receipt of such a letter, "far above th' order used to a subject," says Shrewsbury, in his acknowledgment to the treasurer, "I doo thynk my self more happy therby than ony of myne ansysters; and therefor doo I mean, for a p'petual memory, to presarve the same saffy, as a principal evydence of my greate comforte to my posterite."

Not only by his countess, but by his son, was the old earl sadly disquieted. There is something extremely beautiful in the manifestation of filial affection, under all circumstances, but certainly not least so, exhibited at that period of life, when adolescence, manhood, or matrimony, are too often considered to have absolved a son from all reverence of paternal authority. The character of the Elizabethian age, was not unfavourable to the maintenance of those reciprocal

acknowledgments of kindred, which, it is to be feared, the peculiar spirit of our own times is not peculiarly calculated to cherish. The custom of presenting new year's gifts, was at this period prevalent; and Gilbert Talbot sent to his father "a perfumed doublet," as a new year's gift, accompanying it by a letter in that style of filial respect, which too many grown gentleman are in the habit of considering to belong exclusively to boys. He was, however, at the time, not only married, but also a member of parliament: and the good old earl, with the affection of a father, replies:—"Yor nuergyfte sholbe, I wyll supply all yor nedeful wantes: and so long as I see that carefulness, duty, and love, you bear me, whych hitherto I see in you, my purse, and that I have, shall be as free to you as to myself. Tyme is short, & I have so many cum to me with nuergyfts, I can wryt no more. From Sheffield, newyear's day, 1574."\*

It would be pleasant to dwell upon this, as a specimen of the subsequent intercourse between this father and son, and to believe that the conjugal infelicity of this nobleman was at least mitigated by the filial commiseration of his children; but truth demands a statement of the ungracious fact, that, notwithstanding the seeds of good began thus to shoot up, they were afterwards choaked by the noisome weeds of family dissention. Gilbert Talbot seems to have had a wife, too much resembling her mother, and too much under the influence of her malignant ascendancy, to have permitted him long to deserve the above commendations for duty and carefulness. How diligently and how successfully the wife of Shrewsbury laboured to alienate the affections of Gilbert from his father, and to make him the spy and reporter of his actions, may be seen from the letters of all the parties. To one of Gilbert's requests for additional supplies of money, the earl, his father, replies:—"During my lief, I would not have you expect anie more at myne hands, than I have already allowed you, whereof I know you might live well, and clere from danger of anie, as I did, yf you had that goverement over yor wief, as her pomp and courtlike manner was some dele assuaged." The earl then wishes that his son had but half as much, to relieve his necessities, as his wife and her mother, had spent, in seeking his dishonour and overthrow, and himself in defending his just cause against them, and thus concludes:—"By means of those evill dealinges, together with other bargaines, wherein I have intangled myself of late, I am not able eyther to help you, or store myself for anie other purpose I shall take in hand these twelvemonthes. Thus, praienge God to bless you, I bidde you farewell. Sheffield Lodge, the xvii<sup>th</sup> of June, 1587.

Yor lovenge father,



This difference seeming to grow up into irreconcilable enmity, Sir Henry Lee, a friend of the family's, had afterwards a conference with the earl, at Worksop, on the subject, and obtained his leave to write to Lord Talbot, as a mediator: he again saw the earl at Sheffield, on the same business, but found him still resolved not to do any thing more for his son, until he should be better pleased with his conduct.

In the height of these family troubles in 1586, a proposition was made by the earl's sons, to become farmers general of his immense estates, exclusive of the castle, lodge, and park of Sheffield, together with the house and domain of Handsworth, which he should keep in his own hands; and that, for the rest, they should pay him annually £10,000. In the rough estimate of the property then made, his estates in Nottinghamshire were rated at £1,500 per annum.\*

This noble earl, whose lot it was to lose his first wife at an early period; whose second nuptials only brought him a full heritage of matrimonial infelicity; whose unshaken fidelity to his monarch made him the gaoler of a rival queen for 15 years; and whose execution, it must be hoped, he was compelled, rather than inclined, to witness; whose family misunderstandings embittered the remnant of his life;—this noble earl, died at Sheffield manor, on the 18th November, 1590, leaving his wife again widow, who survived him eight years. His funeral, which took place on the 10th of January following, at Sheffield, was one of the most sumptuous ever witnessed in that neighbourhood. By Gertrude Manners, his first wife, he had a numerous family. Francis, Lord Talbot, his eldest son and heir-apparent, had married Ann Herbert, a daughter of William, Earl of Pembroke, and died, without issue, in his father's lifetime. The title and inheritance, therefore, descended to his eldest surviving son, the before-mentioned

### GILBERT TALBOT,

who became the seventh Earl of Shrewsbury. He was about 38 years of age† at the time of his accession to the earldom, and was married to Mary, daughter of Sir William Cavendish.

Sir Charles Cavendish, the youngest son of the last mentioned Sir William, by Elizabeth, now Countess of Shrewsbury, was the intimate friend, and almost inseparable companion of Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, at whose house of Worksop manor, he appears to have been residing in 1592, when his lady gave birth to their first-born son, who was christened there, according to the following entry in the parish register:—"Charles Cavendish, the son of Sir Charles Cavendish,

\* Hallamshire, p. 74.

† Georgius Comes Salop. obiit xvij. die Novembris ultimo et Gilbertus Comes Salop. est fil. et hæ. et est ætat xxxvij. ann. 13 Apr. 33. Eliz.

and is followed by an account of the vast possessions then held by the Shrewsbury family, an abstract of which is given in the Appendix to Blore's South Winfield, pp. 96, 97, 98, 99. I may add, that this work contains a genealogical chart of the Shrewsbury family, down to Charles Talbot, fifteenth earl, born 1754.

This entry heads the inquisition, taken on the earl's death,

Knight, was borne the xiiij daie of August, and christened the xxvii of the same month: his godfathers were, the Right Honble. Gilbert, Erl of Shrewsburie, and Mr. Edward Talbot: his godmother was one of the younge ladies, as debutie for the old countess, the knight's mother: the \* \* \* [christening] was in the chapel at Worksop manor."\* He died before he was two years old, and was buried at Sheffield, on the 25th of April, 1594. His brother, who afterwards became the celebrated Duke of Newcastle of the civil wars, was likewise born in the house belonging to the Earl of Shrewsbury, at Handsworth, in 1592.

To return to Earl Gilbert. The late earl, his father, by a will, made the year before his death, had appointed his two younger sons, Edward and Henry Talbot, to be his executors: they renounced the trust, and Elizabeth, the widow of the late earl, claimed, and was allowed to administer. These letters were afterwards revoked, and administration granted to the new earl. This was the cause of violent dissensions, not only between the earl and the widow of his late father, but also between him and his brother Edward. Of the irritable and disputacious temper of this earl, we have but too plentiful proof: he was at variance with most of his relatives, and on ill terms with his tenantry and neighbours: but it is especially in his implacable animosity towards his brother Edward, that we perceive the darkest shade in his character. Mr. Lodge has given several letters, which passed between the two brothers, pending these unhappy differences; and as Worksop was the place to which the earl retired to cherish this evil mood of fraternal jealousy, the locality becomes in some sort identified with the matter. Not only did the disputes run violently on the subject of the family estates, but "there is," says Mr. Hunter, "in one of the volumes of the Harleian Collection of Manuscripts, a sheet, containing probabilities, arguments, and reasons, that Edward Talbot conspired against the life of the earl his brother."† Whatever truth there might be in these statements, or whatever suspicions on the part of the earl, nothing can justify his conduct. The first letter which I shall give from the Talbot Papers, is thus indorsed by the earl:—"A copy of a l're wrytten by me, and sent by two of my s'vants, the sup'scription whereof was thus—To my brother, Mr. Edward Talbot. The messengers, Thomas Cooke, Charles Persall, gents."

"Whereas I understand that you have sayd, that I have a fraudulent lease, or deede, or bothe, I say that you have therein lyed in yor throte, and shall do so, as often as you shall say so or thynke. If herewith you shall find yorsel' agreved (in such sorte as in the honor of yor byrthe you oughte.) I wyll not fayle to be founde, wth two gentlemen only, or with more, or fewer, & in such an indifferent place, on such a day and howar, & with such weapons & garments, as thes my two servantes shall conclude with you: and, further, I coulde wishe you wold brynge so many of my knowen enemyes, as I could be glad to encounter wth gentellmen of lyke qualitie and nu'ber, hearynge, that you are lately combyned with some of them. Wrytten at Sheffield Castell, the 22 of June, 1594.

GILB. SHREWSBURY.

\* Worksop. Par. Reg. 1592, ann. Eliz. 34.

† Hallamshire, p. 75.

“ The instructions to my two servants were thes:—

“ Fyrste, Yt they sholde deliver my l're unto him, and then that they sholde accepte of any reasonable apoyntm't by him, of place, tyme, company, & furneture; but if he shall refuse to apointe any, then to p'pounde unto him thes followinge:—

“ The company to be two gentellmen a pece.

“ The furneture; rapyer, dagger, a shorte gantelet, & no other weapons; ordinary garments, and no other.

“ The place, one myle southe from Doncaster, wch is, from his house at Pomffret, xi myles, & from Worksop, from whence I shall cum xii myles.

“ The day, Wednesday, the xxvi<sup>th</sup> of June, at xi of the clock in the forenoone.

“ And if he will nether send me any apoyntm't, nor lyke of thes p'positions, then tell him that, forasmuche as I heare that he meaneth to goe towards Northumberland on Tuesday next, that I meane, God willinge, to be in the place aforesayd, accompanied only with sixe gentellmen, on Munday next, at xi of the clock aforenoon.

“ G. SH.”\*

The earl accordingly left Sheffield Castle on the same day, and repaired to his house at Worksop, to wait the result of this singular communication, which his brother Edward, naturally enough, understood to be a challenge to fight; this, however, he declined in a way perfectly consistent with the laws of honour, and replies as became him in the following letter:—

“ Where yor Lo. writeth, you understand, I should say you have made a fraudulent lease, or dede, or bothe, and, thereuppon, you geve mee undeserved and unfitt words; and, also, a chaleng<sup>e</sup> to fight wth you, (a cource little expected by mee, to p'eede from a man of your place and wisdom,) so do I playnelie answer yor letter thus:—First, my words were these: that if your lordshippe had made a lesse, whereby the frechold were put out of yor self, and then you suffer recoveries to the prejudice of the intayle, wherein I am next yor self in remainder, that such a leace, to such a purpose, my counsel thought would prove fraudulent; now, if any have given you to understand otherways, I desire to know the man, that I may cale him to such account as best beseems me. How farr it pleaseth you to dislike of these words, so farr must I be sorie, that you now will urge them into extremities; and yet, must and will ever justifie, in honourable sort, what I have spoken.—Secondly, as touching your chaleng, I flatly refuse it; manie good and sound

\* Lodge, vol. iii. p. 50.

respects (wch it seemeth you have forgotten) so moving me, and will defend and p'rsute my honor & causes, in fittinge and orderlie manner; wch course I hould the best betwixt you and me.— Lastly, yor Lo. doth mistake, as in the rest, that I should combine my self wth yor known enemies; for nether have I done so to my willinge, nether do I know by whom you name; and so I ceace. From Pontifract, this xxiii<sup>th</sup> of June, 1594.

“ Your brother,

“ EDWARD TALBOT.\*

“ *To the right honourable, my brother,  
the Earl of Shrewsbury.*”

Whether Edward Talbot was justified, in considering the letter above, in the light of a challenge, the reader must judge: his brother affects to be surprised, that he should so have considered it. That his reply was both prudent and proper, all must admit; the earl, however, seems to have thought differently, as appears from the following letter written from Worksop, the copy of which, in his own hand, is preserved among the Talbot Papers, and superscribed, “ The copy of my second l're, in answer to his of the xxiii<sup>th</sup> of June, 1594.”

“ Whereas, you wryte, that I have geven you a chalenge, to feyght wth you: I answer, that you doe therein lye, for I only gave you the lye in yor throte; and, where you say it to be a cource lytel expected by you, to procede from a man of my place and wysdom, you shew yor simplicitie in conceivnge yt such men sholde be insensible of injuries. For the next poynte, I suppose, feare makes you shroude yor selfe under the opinion of yor counsell, learned in the law. I was exceedingly lothe to be drawn by you unto this heyght; and now am somewhat troubled to see, by yor let'r, that you take a lye in the throte for a chalenge: as though feare should make you take blacke for whyte, and flatly to refuse a chalenge before it be given. To conclude—whereas, you wryte, I do mistake, that you sholde combyne yor selfe with my knowne enemyes, therein you doe also lye; for I am suer I hard so muche, and that was all I wrote thereof, & therefore can be no mistake in me. And haveinge here agayn layed divers lyes justly upon you, in expectac'on of more honourable effectes in you, I will be in rediness, as thes my servantes shall acquaynt you. Wrytten at Worksop, the 23<sup>th</sup> of June, 1594.

“ GILB. SHREWSBURY.”

“ This, under, was also delivered to him by my two servantes, fyrst by worde, & after by wrytyng, under theyr hands, after he had refused all that was moved unto him, viz:—

“ Sr,—Our Lord will be, this present day, at ye forenamed place, at xi of the clock, wth not above seven persons in his company, and ther will stay until one of the clock, and no longer,

\* Lodge, vol. iii. p. 52.

except he understood from you, of yor resolution, to mete him ther, & then will he stay, till suche tyme as you shall set down for yor cominge thither.

" TH. COOKE,

" CH. PERSALL.

" Lastly, he sent me his second l're, dated the 24th of June."\*

This second letter from Edward Talbot, to his angry brother, exhibits the same temperance and good sense as the former:—

" It seemeth to me, as well by yor first as seconde l'res, that yor lordshipp is verie desirous & willinge to urge a quarrell against me; & that everie reporte, howe untrue soever, wch may be tould unto you, hath that free passage & credite with yor lordshipp, that you can be well pleased to hould them for good, before any question ether be demanded, or matter examined, wherewith I muste by you be charged. How I could, or would, digest these things at the hands of any other than yourself (my actions no ways degeneratinge from my birthe,) shall, I hope, geve bothe sufficiente testimonie to the world, & discharge my reputation. And, when you say I write that you gave me a chalenge to fight wth you, I doe still conceive that, in substance, it is no lesse, and therein will refer me to yor letter, together with the instructions wch yor servants delivered me: Nether do I hould or take it for a disgrace to receave the lie at yor hands, seeing I have ever for flat resolution sett downe, never to enter into hostilitie wth yor oun person. For my lawe matters, wch are great, and greater than ordinary, I must confesse I am willinge to shroud myselfe under the opinion of my learned counsell; but to think, as you wryte, that I ether doe or will deny, for feare, what I have at any time spoken, shall well be found, whensoever I shall have just cause of action against any of like qualitie to myself, to bee by you more hardlie sensured then you have reason. Let this, therefore, satisfie yor lordshippe for conclusion, that as ever I wilbe readye to defende my person & reputation against whosoever shall offer me violence, so can I never consent, by private apoyntment, to geve you meetinge in any hostile manner or degree; and so I leave you. From Pontifract, this xxiiii<sup>th</sup> of June, 1594.

" Yor Lo<sup>r</sup>. brother,

" EDW. TALBOTT.†

" *To my brother, the Earl of Shrewsbury.*"

The particulars of this ungracious affair were presently rumoured abroad, with such aggravations, as might naturally be expected to accompany the report, and which became an occasion of "great jollity" among the earl's enemies; not only so, but the matter reached the ears of the queen, and with the report, the letters of both parties: these letters, says the Earl of Essex, in an epistle to Shrewsbury, "note yor L<sup>ps</sup> urging of quarrel, his avoyding of it: they [his enemies]

\* Lodge, vol. iii. p. 48.

† *Four* vol. II. p. 55.

persuade the Q. to think you are violent, wch, they tell her, is dangerous in greatt men: they shew her his meekness and Christen paicence, to geve him advantage, yf any matter happen on ether syde, I mean by friends or servantes. The Q. hath told and shewed me all, and willed me to advyce you from these courses; and this is all the story of the matter." The letter, from which this extract is taken, was enclosed in one from Lord Howard, on the same subject, written with great good sense. These letters are both dated 7th July, at which time the earl was still residing at Worksop, from whence he replied to Lord Howard, on the 13th of the same month, attributing his conduct towards his brother, to "his wycked saythebrekyng with me, in all yt he infinitely p'tested unto me in the lyffe time of my father: His vayne braggs, and false reportes, sprd abrode by his owne mouthe, through Northumberland and Yorkshire, in Lente last, that I had forfited my p'sent estate to him, in all lands I have in possession at this day, by my cuttyng of, or goyng about it, the intayle made by my father: and lately, his report, that a lease wch I made of all my lands, was frawdulent, &c." In a long letter to the Earl of Essex, Shrewsbury enters more fully into particulars; declaring, that in his father's lifetime, both his younger brothers did, by unjustifiable means, possess themselves of more lands than were left to him; all of which they might dispose of at their pleasure, but that the whole of his were so entangled with entails and conditions of forfeitures, that he had found it hardly possible to hold them. He also represents, that he had been induced, by the fair speeches and protestations of his brothers, to compound with them for the executorship, and other things, at such a rate, that, he protests, he lost at least £10,000 by the bargain. Having stated these, and other of his griefs, he conjures Essex, "not as a saincte, but as a man," to weigh the injuries and evil reports which he had borne, and thereupon hopes, that he will not only exonerate him from the charge of a quarrelsome disposition, but likewise, that he will put the best construction he can upon such of these things as may come to her majesty's ears. How long he remained at Worksop,\* or how much he was indebted to the mediation of Devereux, does not appear: it is certain, however, that, the year following, he so far fell under the queen's displeasure, as to be kept for some time a prisoner in his own house.†

In the year 1596, Shrewsbury appears to have been reinstated in the queen's favour, as he was sent, along with Sir William Dethick, on an embassy to Henry IV. of France, to invest him with the order of the garter, and likewise to receive that monarch's ratification of a treaty, lately entered into between the two kingdoms. He was one of the noblemen who sat on the trial of the Earl of Essex in 1600; and in three years afterwards, we have an incidental notice of his being at Worksop, connected with the presumption, that he was now in favour at the court of Elizabeth.

\* Could it be proved that his lordship remained at Worksop during the two following months, or that he again visited his seat there in the autumn, the following information might be admitted to depose favourably of the venison, of the park, and the cookery of the manor. In September, Roger Manners writes, from Uffington, to the Earl of Shrewsbury:—"I most humble thank yor lordship and my lady, for the fatte stagge, which is very well baked, but that the pasties be so

great, that I have no dishe wool hold them. Mr. Buckna's thanketh your lordship for the stagge's bed, which he is contented shalbe placed on his hedd whensoever he doth mary; in the mean tyme, he will place it, not in the stable, but upon the entry of his house, in stead of a porter; and so he sayth it shall be a monument."—*Lodge*, vol. iii. p. 68.

† Hallamshire, p. 76.

The following letter, from Lord Burghley to the Earl of Shrewsbury, relates to one of the royal progresses, and is dated from York, 4th June, 1603, the last year of the queen's life.

“Hearing of your lordships present coming down to your house at Worksop, not knowing whether your lordship knew of her ma'tie late alteration to come speedier journeys to York, then at the first it was thought she would have done, I have sent your lordship the last postes, wherby your lordship may perceive her ma'tie will be here upon Saturday next. How many days her ma'tie meaneth to tarry here, I know not, untill her coming; and I fear she hasten her journey from hence, by taking longer journeys than was thought of. If it fall out so, I will advertise your lordship by poste, as I do now.”\*

On the 24th of March, 1603, Elizabeth, Queen of England, departed this life, aged 70 years. James VI. of Scotland, son of the late Queen Mary, was named as her successor; and the proclamation, which thus settled the British crown on the representative of Lady Margaret Tudor, was signed by the Earl of Shrewsbury, who seems to have become sincerely attached to the interests of the new king. James was at this time in Scotland; and measures were immediately concerted for bringing him up to London, with a splendour, befitting alike the dignity of his rank, and the hospitality of the country which had called him to its throne. Worksop lay conveniently upon the line of the royal progress; and Shrewsbury was ambitious to entertain, at his house, so illustrious a guest: in expectation of this honour, he was anxious to assemble together as many of the neighbouring gentry as possible, as well as to make other necessary provisions in his household: he therefore addressed the following letter to his agent, “John Harpur, Esquire:”—

“Mr. Harpur, yt may be I shalbe verie shortly in the cuntrie, & perhaps may be soe happie as to entertaine the king our sov'aigne at Worsupp. I would entreate you to lett all my good friends in Derbyshire and Staffordshire know so much, to the end that I may have theire companie against such tyme as his ma'tie shall come thither. I know not how soon. If yt soe hap as I shall know w'thin a few daies the certaintie; but then yt wilbe to late for your horses, or anie thinge else, to be prepared, unless you prepare them presently upon the receipt hereof. All things here are well, and nothing but unitie and good agreement. God continue yt. Amen, amen.

“At my chamber in Whytehalle Pallace, this 30th of March, being Wednesdaie at night, in verie great haste. 1603.

“Your friend, most assured,

“GILB. SHREWSBURY.

\* Talbot Papers, vol. K. f. 81.

" I will not refuse anie fatt capons, & hennes, partridges, or the lyke, yf the king come to me.

" G. SH.

" *To my verie good frend, Mr. John Harpur, Esq. at Swarston, dd."*

Mr. Hunter, who gives the above letter from a copy made by Mr. Wilson from the original, observes, that on it was the following note, which shews that it was circulated among the gentlemen of Derbyshire:—

" I receiued this letter from my cousine Harpur, that you gentlemen may se yt, & consider of yt. & w'thall I understand by him, that Mr. Henry Cavendish answered the noblemen to his creditt, wch I am glad of, & those that love him.

" JOHN CURZON.\*"

The above letter, as we see, was written by the earl at court at the latter end of March. On the 5th April, 1603; the king left Edinburgh for Douglas; and on the 6th he came to Berwick: On the 8th he went to Witherington, Sir Robert Carey's; and on the 9th to Newcastle: April 13th, he came to Durham; and on the 14th to Walworth, 16 miles from Durham, where he was entertained at the house of a lady, Mrs. Genlon: On the 15th to Topcliffe, Mr., afterwards Sir William Engleby's: On the 16th to York; and on the 19th to Pontefract, where, having viewed the castle, he went on to Doncaster, and lodged for that night at the sign of the bear and the sun. Having been well satisfied with the landlord and his accommodations, the king granted him a favourable lease of his house, and afterwards set forward on his journey: and on the 20th of April the royal cavalcade arrived at Worksop, where they were received with a ceremony and hospitality characteristic of the times. A brief account of his majesty's reception at Worksop is given by a contemporary writer, who was probably also one of the train, and an eye witness to what he describes, and the simplicity of whose narration will render it most acceptable in his own words:—

" The 20th day, being Wednesday, his majesty rode [from Doncaster] towards Worstop, the noble earl of Shrewsbury's house; and, at Batine, the high sheriffe of Yorkshire took his leave of the king, and there Mr. Askoth, the high sheriffe of Nottinghamshire, received him, being gallantly appointed both with horse and man; and so he conducted his majesty on, till he came within a mile of Blyth, where his highness lighted, and sat downe on a banke side, to eate and drinke.

" After his majesty's short repast, to Worstop his majesty rides forward; but, by the way, in the parke he was somewhat stayed, for there appeared a number of huntsmen, all in greene, the chief of which, with a woodman's speech, did welcome him, offering his majestie to shewe him

\* Hallamshire, p. 93.



some game, which he gladly condescended to see; and, with a traine set, he hunted a good space, very much delighted: at last he went into the house, where he was so nobly received, with superfluitie of all things, that still every entertainment seemed to exceed other. In this place, besides the abundance of all provision and delicacie, there was most excellent soul-ravishing musique, wherewith his highness was not a little delighted.

" At Worstop he rested on Wednesday night, and in the morning stayed breakfast; which ended, there was such store of provision left, of fowle, fish, and almost every thing, besides bread, beere, and wines, that it was left open for any man that would to come and take. After breakfast, his majestie prepared to remove; but, before his departure, he made these gentlemen knights, whose names are following:—

" SIR JOHN MANNERS, [Derbyshire]  
SIR HENRIE GRAY, [nephew to the Earl of Kent]  
SIR FRANCIS NEWPORT, [Salop]  
SIR HENRIE BEAUMONT, [Leicestershire]  
SIR EDWARD LOCKRANE,  
SIR HEW SMITH, [Somersetshire]  
SIR EDMUND LUCIE, [Hertfordshire]  
SIR EDMUND COCKIN, [Derbyshire]  
SIR JOHN HARPU, [Derbyshire]

SIR WILLIAM DAMCOURT,\* [Cheshire]  
SIR HENRIE PERPOINT, [Nottinghamshire]  
SIR THOMAS GRISBET,† [Staffordshire]  
SIR JOHN BEERON, [Nottinghamshire]  
SIR PERCIVAL WILLOUGHBY, [Nottinghamshire]  
SIR PETER FRESCHVILLE, [Derbyshire]  
SIR WILLM. SKIPWIRTH, [Leicestershire]  
SIR RICHARD SEXTON,‡ [Yorkshire]  
SIR THOMAS STANLEY."§ [Cheshire]

A list of the persons knighted by King James, on his way from Edinburgh to London, is likewise preserved in a volume of the Landsdowne MS., number 94; art. 56; from which the above names of counties, placed between brackets, are extracted, and in which the sir-names of the gentry occur, with very material differences in orthography: indeed, in this MS., the entry of Sir Edward Lockrane does not occur at all, but, instead of it, "Sir Walter Cope, Middlesex." The copyist, in the text, might follow some roll-call; and, it is observable, that the name of "Sir John Byron," is written "Beerøn," as it was lately fashionable to designate his illustrious poetical descendant.

The remainder of the King's journey was performed as follows:—After leaving Worksop,|| they arrived, on the 21st, at Newark Castle; on the 22nd they proceeded to Belvoir Castle; and

\* Davenport. † Greysley. ‡ Thickston.

§ From a work, printed in "London, by Thomas Creede, for Thomas Millington, 1603," entitled, "The true Narrative of the Entertainment of his Royal Majestie, from the time of his departure from Edinburgh, till his receiving at London, &c."

|| Although not noticed in the contemporary printed accounts of this journey, it is stated, that the king halted for refreshment at Southwell, on his way to Newark, at both of

which places he was very respectfully received. "He is said to have expressed himself," says Dickenson, "in terms of great surprise, at the sight of so large a pile of building as the church, in so small a town as Southwell. One of the attendants observing, that York and Durham were more magnificent structures, James, who, I suppose, estimated the value of every object by the quantity of matter contained in it, replied, somewhat peevishly, in his Scotch accent,—“Vary wele, vary wele; but by my blude, this kirk shall juttle with York or Durham, or any other kirk in Christendom.””—*History of Southwell*, vol. i. p. 322.

on the 23rd, to Burleigh. On the 27th, to Hinchinbrooke, Sir Oliver Cromwell's; 29th to Royston, where the King lay at his own charges, at the house of one Mr. Chester; on the 30th, to Standon, Sir Thomas Sadler's. May 2nd, to Broxbourn, Sir Henry Cock's; May 3rd, to Theobalds; May 7th, from Theobalds to London, to the Charter House, Lord Thomas Howard's, where his Majesty staid four days. On the 11th of May, the King went from the Charter House to Whitehall, and thence to the Tower. Several interesting particulars, connected with this journey, may be found printed at the end of Nichol's *Progresses of Queen Elizabeth*.— One incident, which occurred on the day after the King left Worksop, may be mentioned here. "At Newark," says the authority quoted by Nichols, "and in the court, was taken, a cut-purse, doing the deed, and being a base pilfering thief, yet was all gentlemanlike in the outside; this fellow had good store of coin found about him, and, upon examination, confessed, that he had, from Berwick to that place, played the cut-purse in the court. The King, hearing of this gallant, directed a warrant to the recorder of Newark, to have him hanged, *which was accordingly executed*; and all the rest of the prisoners in the Castle pardoned."\* How far wisdom was justified in this penal mandate of the British Solomon, might admit of a dispute.

In a following month of the same year, the Queen followed, in the same route, from Scotland to London. In a narrative, by Howes, appended to Stow's *Chronicle*, is the following passage:—"The Queen being, in all respects, prepared, accompanied, and attended, as was meete for so greate a princesse, being likewise accompanied with her two elder children; that is to say, Prince Henry and the Ladie Elizabeth. They made their most happy journey from Scotland into England, and were, in all places wheresoever they arrived, most joyfully received, and entertained, in as loving, duteous, and honourable a manner, as all cities, townes, and particular knights and gentlemen had formerly done unto the King's most excellent Majestie." This Queen, son, and daughter, of James I, were at Worksop on Trinity Sunday, 1603, when the celebrated Toby Matthew, then Bishop of Durham, and afterwards Archbishop of York, preached before them.† Prince Henry, the royal heir apparent, died in his youth; and his younger brother, Charles, at this time left behind, being sick, and who followed to London next year, lived to mount, successively, the throne and the scaffold; and, with whose migrations and misfortunes, the chorography of the county of Nottingham is intimately associated.

In a few words may be comprised, what more remains to be said of Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury. He was continued in the office of privy counsellor, by King James, and held the chief justiceship in Eyre of the forests north of Trent: besides which, he had neither honours nor employment from the new court.‡ He died at his house, in Broad-street, London, on the 8th of May, 1616, and was buried at Sheffield, without any monument or inscription to his memory. Mr. Hunter, who, in 1809, explored the vault beneath the Shrewsbury Chapel, saw the coffin of this Earl, which was made of oak, under the direction of the Earl of Surrey, in 1778,

\* Stow's *Annals*, edit. 1631, p. 681.

† *Via. Leodiensis*, p. 159.

‡ *Hallamshire*, p. 75.

and contains the leaden envelope of the body, upon which, according to Dodsworth, the following inscription was engraven, and is now preserved on a brass plate affixed to the wooden coffin, from which I have seen an impression: "The body of GILBERT, Earl of Shrewsbury, Washford, and Waterford, High Seneschal of Ireland, Lord Talbot, Comyn of Badenagh, Montchensie, Strange of Blackmere, Gifford of Brimsfield, Clifford of Corsam, Furnival, Verdon, and Lufetot, Knight of the Garter, Privy Councillor to his Ma'tie, Justice in Eyre from Trent Northward, who died the seventh day\* of May, A.D. 1616, aged 64." By his will, (executed only four days before his death) he gave to his sovereign, "in remembrance of his dewtie," a cup of gold, of £200 value; likewise a cup of the same value to the Queen; and to the Prince Charles a gold cup of £100 value; besides several others to different members of his family. To his servant, Thomas Cooke, probably of Worksope, (and who, it will be recollected, was one of the messengers to Edward Talbot,) the earl leaves a legacy of threescore pounds a year, with power, in case of non-payment, to distrain for the same, out of any of his fee-simple lands. A more important bequest, however, as affecting posterity, was made by the earl, under the following, "Item, I will and appointe an hospital to be founded at Sheffielde for perpetuall maintenaunce of twentie poor personnes, and to be called the Hospital of Gilbert, Erle of Shrewsbury; and the same to be endowed with such revenues and possessions as my executors shall thinke fitt, not beinge under two hundred pounds a-year." The personal property of the deceased earl, being insufficient for carrying into effect the intentions above expressed, it was not until 1665 that Mr. Howard, the heir-at-law in the fourth degree from Gilbert, began the building, which, under successive improvements and endowments, has preserved the memory of the Talbots with a freshness and a fragrancy which no other monument could have effected. This charitable foundation stands in Sheffield Park, just within the angle formed by the junction of the rivers Sheaf and Don. The number of pensioners, is at present thirty-six—eighteen men and as many women, turned sixty years of age. The men wear



a purple coat, and upon it, a silver badge, five inches in diameter, embossed with a *Talbot statant on a chapeau gules, turned up ermine*. In consequence of a projected improvement, in that part of the town contiguous to the site of this hospital, a very handsome court of buildings, with chapel, &c. is just now completed, in a more elevated and eligible situation, for the residence of the participators of this noble charity. On the demise of this earl, without surviving male issue, the title became the inheritance of his surviving brother,

#### EDWARD TALBOT,

The eighth Earl of Shrewsbury, who had married Jane, eldest daughter and coheir of Cuthbert, Lord Ogle. Of this last direct male representative of his house, few memorials remain, and of these none are connected with Worksope. He survived his brother somewhat less than one

\* Mr. Hunter says the 8th—I have followed his authority.

year, dying without issue, February 8th, 1617, when the Shrewsbury title passed to a distant relative, George Talbot, of Grafton, in Worcestershire, Esquire.

We have now, by a brief and rapid detail, brought down the history of the Lords of Worksop, to the commencement of the seventeenth century; if, in this sketch, few local incidents have presented themselves when more might have been expected, the reader may be disappointed, and the writer may regret where he could not retrieve; with both parties self satisfaction may have been equally unattainable. With, however, the whole of the preceding period, the history of the monastery remains to be connected, and to a detailed account of that splendid religious foundation, and its noble survivor, the Church of Worksop, we shall now address our attention.



A CANON REGULAR OF THE ORDER OF St. AUGUSTINE.

## CHAPTER III.

### The Foundation, Endowment, and Dissolution of the Priory.

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*Ecce sibi quales isti retinere solebant  
Blanditias! En, quas Pietas construxerat ades  
Devia, quam subita jam devenire ruina!*

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WHATEVER may have been the means by which the valuable estate of Worksop came into the possession of the potent family of the De Lovetots, it is a circumstance, connecting honourably with the little that we know of their characters, that they seem to have been influenced by a powerful concern for the interests of religion, as then understood and exemplified. To the just

and humane regard, which they appear to have manifested for the welfare of those whom the arrangements of Providence had made more immediately dependent upon them, Mr. Hunter bears them ready testimony, in the brief, but satisfactory, notices of the family, which he has presented. "But," says he, "the most splendid act of piety performed by these ancient lords of Hallamshire, was the foundation and endowment of a monastery at Worksop, for canons regular, of the order of Saint Augustine, under the superintendence of a prior."\* Of the justness of the foregoing remark, the magnificent fabric of Worksop Abbey, with its munificent endowments, must at one period have exhibited abundant proof; as even now, the remains of the structure, and the record of the donations, are convincing monuments of the zeal and liberality of early times.

It is impossible, at present, to recover the entire history of a building, the foundation of which is laid in times so remote from our own; partly from the mutation of centuries, but principally from the absence of written evidence on some obscure points. I may, indeed, be ignorant of the existence of some, or without the means of access to the whole of such documents, as may be presumed to be extant on this subject. Such notices as I have been able to collect, shall presently be laid before the reader.

It is an opinion pretty generally entertained, that the founders of monasteries, in the selection of sites for their respective establishments, have paid great attention to, and have been particularly successful in the appropriation of spots the most beautiful and picturesque. Dr. Pegge, in his history of Beauchief, dissents from this sentiment; and although his testimony ought to be allowed to have weight, yet, in this country, at least the present appearance of most of our conventual ruins, seems to favour the popular opinion.

The place chosen for the site of this monastery, was not, however, it is probable, selected so much for any peculiar local eligibility, as from its being on the soil, and near the residence, of the noble founder, who would, no doubt, contemplate the erection of this edifice, with equal complacency, as a temple of religion, and a place of sepulture. The situation, however, was not without many local advantages: it was in the centre of the cultivation of the district, and close upon the borders of Sherwood Forest, (a large tract of which, called Roomwood, was the property of the convent,) whence wood for building, firing, pannage for hogs and cattle, as well as other conveniences, might be secured. It was, moreover, sufficiently upon the line of road between Newark and Mansfield, and consequently of other parts of the country, to afford all the facilities of journeying and land carriage: to these, may be added, the approximate convenience of the river Royton, not only for supplying the canons with fish,† but especially for the maintenance of their mill, an appendage equally indispensable to the town and the monastery.

\* Hallamshire, p. 28.

† Fish were absolutely necessary in conventual discip-

line; and where there was not a river adjacent, the monks generally bred them in stews, and a *fish pond* is mentioned as pertaining to this monastery.

*Workesop Abbathia fundata fuit tertia idus Maii anno tertio Regis Henrici primi.* With these words, Dugdale introduces the charters of this house, in the Monasticon; and they import, that the foundation of the abbey of Worksop was begun to be laid on the 13th day of May, in the third year of the reign of King Henry the First; and this date is followed by Thoroton, and others. As Dugdale has cited no authority, for assigning the above as the period of this foundation, it is alledged to rest upon the somewhat slender testimony of one Pigot, a canon of the house, who composed a rhyming chronicle of its founders, in the time of Edward IV. In the foundation charter, the first endowment of the lay-lord is stated to be made "*concessione & consideratione Emmae uxoris suae & filiorum suorum.*" Mr. Hunter has questioned the accuracy of the above date, on the ground of this passage, by observing, that William and Emma Lovetot had no children, "of an age to give any consent to the deed of their parents, so early as 1103."\* The imperfect state of the pedigree of this family, which leaves not only the period of marriage, but even the person of this Emma in mystery; and the absence of all positive evidence against the testimony of Pigot, still leaves the presumption of accuracy, as respects this date, in favour of the chronicler: nor does it appear necessary to suppose that the children (which Mr. Hunter's phraseology implies to have been born) should have been of "an age" to understand the full import of a grant, in which their consent is asserted, especially in times when precision of phrase was not scrupulously attended to, or when, in conventional instruments like the present, the children might be presumed to fulfil the intentions of their parents; and to this opinion, the learned historian himself seems to incline, in another place, where an argument is founded on the deference which appears to be paid to the wife of this William, by observing, that "no stress" is to be laid upon this circumstance, but "that such clauses are usual in charters of that age and nature."† Mr. Hunter, however, urges another objection, which, if valid, must be admitted to be insurmountable. He says—"Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, who witnessed the first endowment, did not enter on his see before the 25th of Henry I."‡ This assertion is incorrect, and doubtlessly attributable to a slip of the pen or the memory of the historian, as there is not the name of any bishop of Lincoln among the signatures to this instrument. In the absence, therefore, of all positive evidence to the contrary, and from a consideration of the above objections, I would submit, whether we ought not to retain the year 1103 as the foundation date of the priory.

The charter of William de Lovetot, the founder, is given in the Monasticon in the original latin,§ the purport of which is as follows:—Be it known to T. archbishop of York, the archdeacon of Nottingham, and to all the gentry, clergy, and laity, French and English, in all England,

\* Hallamshire, p. 28.

† *Ibid.* p. 25.

‡ *Ibid.* p. 28.—Robert, bishop of Lincoln, was a witness to the first royal charter of privileges from Henry II. Such attestations, indeed, afterwards, became necessary; for, by a canon of the Lateran council, 1179, monasteries could not re-

ceive churches and tythes, without the consent of their respective bishops.—*Selden on Tythes.*

§ It is entitled, *Carta W. de Lovetot fundatoris primi istius monasterii de terris & tenementis, per ipsum tempore fundationis istius monasterii p̄i & devote collatis, ac per filius ejus.*—"Notum sit T. Archiepiscopo Ebori, &c." *Mon. Ang.* vol. ii. p. 50.

and Nottinghamshire, that William de Lovetot, by the concession and consideration of Emma, his wife, and their sons, (or children,) grants and confirms by his breve (or writing) the donation which he made to God, the holy church, and the canons of St. Cuthbert of Worksop, in perpetual alms. In the first place, the whole chapelry of his whole house, with the tythes and oblations: then, the church of Worksop, in which are the said canons, with the lands and tythes, and all things belonging to the said church: moreover, the fish pond,\* and the mill, which are near the said church of Worksop; and all that meadow, which is by the mill and fish pond: likewise, all the tythes of the pence of all his settled revenues, as well in Normandy as in England: at *Inwara*, in the field of Worksop, one carucate of land; and his meadow of *Cratela*:† and all his churches of his demesne of the honour of Blyth, viz. the churches of *Gringley*, of *Misterton*, of *Walkeringham*, of *Normanton*, of *Coleston*, of *Willoughby*, of *Wishou*, and his part of the church of *Tyreswell*, with all lands, tythes, and things belonging to the said churches: likewise, the tythe of his pannage, and of honey,‡ and of venison, of fish, and of fowl; of malt, and of all other things of which tythes are wont and ought to be given. And he wills, and firmly grants, that the aforesaid canons may, truly and peaceably, freely and honourably, hold all these things, with all the liberties and free customs with which he himself holds them. The witnesses to this grant, are, Egero Sacerdote, Walveto Sacerdote, Ilberto Scriptore, Rogero de Lincolnia, Edone Dapifero, Erturo Præposito, Wigero de Sancto Albino, Cont'de Shefeld, Gilberto de Gatef, [ord?] Rogero de Sayendale.§

Such is the first charter of endowment: of the progress and perfection of the buildings, we have no specific information. We are not, indeed, by any means, to suppose, that the whole monastery, according to the dimensions marked out by the remaining traces of the ruins, was finished, either previous to the charter, or during the life of the founder; but that he built, or devised, so much as was necessary to accommodate the canons, who added to the structure, as means increased and additional accommodations became necessary: this remark applies especially to the state of the edifice at the period of its glory, which must have been the result of the labour

\* Of this fish pond, no traces at present remain; nor is this surprising, as the whole surface of the ground hereabouts, must have been materially altered in its appearance, by tillage, and other causes. There is a spring, now enclosed, called "*Priorwell*," and a meadow, of four acres, denominated from the same; and from which, it might be presumed, that the canons would draw their supplies of water, was it not for the convenient proximity of the river, which they must have had to ford for that purpose. It was "formerly," says Parkyns, in his *Monastic and Baronial Remains*, "celebrated for miraculous cures; but since monastic deceptions have unveiled themselves, votaries no longer offer, and, consequently, cures are no longer performed." This may have been the case: more recently the well has been resorted to by persons having sore eyes, in the cure of which, it is said to be efficacious, and has probably the common virtue of fresh cool spring-water.

† *Cratela*, a manor in the south-clay division of the Hundred of Bassetlaw.

‡ The introduction of *sugar*, for the purposes of sweetening generally, has, in our times, transferred the chief consumption of *honey* from the confectioner to the apothecary: and the use of foreign wines, with the distillation of ardent spirits, has likewise superseded the melliferous beverage of our ancestors—*mead*, or *metheglin*: hence much less attention is paid to the management of bees at present, than formerly, in Nottinghamshire, as well as elsewhere, although some few apiaries are still to be seen in the neighbourhood of Worksop.

§ So printed in the *Monasticon*. It should be *Saxendale*, a name derived from a manor once held by them of the Lovetots. Thoreton calls this witness *Malgerus*.



of many years—probably centuries. The church (probably not as at present existing, and certainly with the exception of the towers) may have been the first erection, and would most likely be finished for the celebration of divine service, and furnished with dwellings for a suite of canons, before the deed of its endowment was confirmed by William de Lovetot. It may be here remarked, that the founder, in his charter, does not use any term designative of a conventual building, but simply "*Ecclesiam de WORKESOP, in qua Canonici sunt.*" From this phraseology, indeed, the more ancient portions of the church have been referred even to a much earlier period; but, in this instance, I think the silence of Doomsday, must be admitted to be conclusive against its Anti-Norman foundation. If it be said that the conqueror's record is not infallible, and that it is hardly likely to suppose "a place of such importance, as was the *Werechesope* of that record would be devoid of such a necessary appendage as a '*presbiter et ecclesia* ;'" it may be urged with equal force, and for the very same reason, that the mention of a church, had one existed, would have followed of course. But, besides this, the character of the architecture is almost altogether against the supposition, for although the *style* of the earlier parts is evidently Saxon, yet the design and execution of the whole is decidedly Norman.

If we assume, as the period of its foundation, the date as given above, on the testimony of Pigot and his followers, it will appear, that at least seven years elapsed between that act, and the charter above cited, as addressed to T. Archbishop of York. Now, presuming that the prelate here meant must be Thomas, the second of his name, and not Thurston, his successor, the period would be nearly settled; for this Thomas did not enter on his see till the tenth year of the reign of Henry I. Tanner and Leland, indeed, expressly state the foundation to have been in the time of Gerard, Bishop of York, who was instituted to the dignity in 1100: but they have adduced no authority for the statement.

In this charter it is also observable, that the canons are called "*Canonicis Sancti Cuthberte* ;" so that it appears the church had at this time received its dedication to St. Cuthbert, with whom, according to custom, St. Mary was afterwards associated.\*

Of the places noticed in the preceding and following grants, as being appropriated to, or connected with, the monastery, some account shall be given; and as this is mostly adduced on the authority of Thoroton, I shall not deem it necessary to crowd the margin with references, for the

\* St. Cuthbert was the sixth bishop of Durham, who died at a great age, in 686. The ruins of the monastery over which he presided, still exist at Lindisfarne, an island on the coast of Northumberland, and the ancient episcopal seat of the see of Durham, still called, "St. Cuthbert's Holy Isle." The legend of this saint, after detailing many singular migrations of his remains, states, they eventually rested at Durham; and, it is said, that at the time of the Reformation, the wife of Dr. Whittingham, then dean of that church, and one of the tran-

slators of the Psalms, ascribed to Sternhold and Hopkins, ordered them to be taken up, and thrown upon a dunghill. This saint appears to have been in great repute, for at the dissolution of the chantries, the donations offered at the altar dedicated to St. Cuthbert, in York Cathedral, amounted, according to Dodsworth, to £12 per annum,—a large sum in those days, and only exceeded by four other altars, out of 40 enumerated by the historian.

confirmation of every statement drawn from his pages, as the reader who has either doubt or curiosity on the history of any particular spot may readily turn to the index of the original work

Besides the church of *Gringeley*, the convent had other property there, of which some notice will be taken hereafter.

At the dissolution, a cottage in *Misterton*, late belonging to the priory of Worksop, was part of a grant, made 29th June, 38 Henry VIII., to Robert Thornhill and Leonard Waracappe: and June 27th, 7 Edward VI., a close of land, late belonging to the same priory, was granted to Robert Dudley, Knight, and William Glaseour, Gent., and to the heirs of Robert.

*Walkeringham*.—This donation was confirmed by Matilda de Lovetot, as well as the gift of one mess. in the same place, of one acre, without the graff or ditch of *Gringeley*; and three bovates of land, with the appurtenances, which Nicholas Ingeniator gave to the same monastery, and her father William de Lovetot confirmed; with the mill of *Walfrey*, and a certain mess. or dwelling-house; likewise two tofts in Walkeringham, which William, son of Ketelber, and Robert, son of Wlstan, sometime held. Matilda Daynet, (or Daynel,) 4 Edward I., claimed, against the prior of Worksop, the advowson of the church of *Walkeringham*, whereof her ancestor was seized in the time of King Henry, that king's great grandfather: but it was found, 8 Edward I., that the prior had more right to hold the advowson than Matilda. The vicarage was then valued at £8. The prior of Worksop, 8 Edward I., had free warren in Walkeringham and Hardwick.\*

Joan, daughter and heir of Henry de Trent, of Walkeringham, was in ward to his brother Richard de Trent, who was a canon of Worksop, about 1350.

In 36 Henry VIII., a messuage in Walkeringham, belonging to Worksop, and valued at 75 per ann., was given, with other land, to John Beer and Henry Lawrence, and the heirs of John.

The vicarage of *Normanton* was valued at eight marks when the prior of Worksop was patron: at present, £4. 5s. in the king's books. The Worksop house had considerable connections with this place, as elsewhere is noticed.

*Coleston*.—There are two places in the county of Nottingham both bearing this appellation, and distinguished as *Coleston-Basset*, and *Car-Coleston*. As I do not find that the convent had any property at the former of these places, the latter must be intended, although Thoroton states, that the rectory of *Carcolston* was not appropriated to the priory till 1349.† He further adds, that

\* Plac. in Com. Nottingh. 8 Ed. I. rot. 5. m. 29.

Tanner, that the patent "pro eccl. de Kercolston," was enrolled 10 Ed. II. rot. m. 31.

† Thoroton, vol. i. p. 242. It appears, however, from

the prior compounded with the dean and chapter of Lincoln, "for what concerned the tythes here of Orston soc," for £4 per ann., which, in case of non-payment, they were to distrain for at Gringley and Walkeringham. Likewise, that John Bellowe and Robert Pigott had licence, Dec. 17, 37 Henry VIII., to alienate the rectory and advowson of the vicarage of *Carcolston*, late belonging to the priory of Worksop, to Richard Whalley and his heirs. The same persons had another grant the year following, of the tythes of corn and hay within the town and fields of *Screveton*, or *Stretton*, then in the tenure of the said Richard Whalley, and late belonging to the priory, which parcel of the rectory was one-third of the tythes of *Screveton*. The vicarage was ten marks when the prior of Worksop was patron.\*

The *Willeby* of the charter, is *Willoughby*, in Rushcliffe hundred. William de Nodariis, (or Nowers,) 8 Edward I., levied a fine of the advowson of this church to Alan, prior of Worksop;† and in 13 Edward III., Richard de Willoughby gave ten marks for a licence to give a messuage, and £10 rent in *Wishou* and *Willoughby* on the Wolds, to three chaplains, who were every day to celebrate divine service in this church of Willoughby. These would most likely be three of the canons from the priory, to which the church was appropriated, 7 Richard II.‡

King Edward VI., July 13, 1547, granted to the master and college of the Virgin Mary and All Saints, in Fotheringhay, all the rectory and church of Willoughby, late parcel of the priory of Worksop. The vicarage was valued at £8 when the prior was patron.

*Wishou* is noticed at considerable length by Thoroton, in connection with a branch of the Lovetots. Besides the church mentioned in the charter, as the gift of the founder, Nigellus de Lovetot, his heir, gave to the church of St. Cuthbert, two bovates out of his demesne in *Wishou*, one part at *Boney*, and the other towards *Withmerpool*.§ The vicarage was eight marks when the prior was patron. King Edward VI., Jan. 2, in the sixth year of his reign, among other

\* The reader, who has accompanied me so far, will, I am sure, pardon me, if, in this place, I interrupt his progress for a moment, while I pay a brief tribute of respect to the memory of Dr. THOROTON, to whose work I have so often referred, and to which these pages are so materially indebted. He was born 1623, probably at this Carcolston, where he lived, and where he was buried, Nov. 23, 1678. His voluminous historical collections were published by himself, in folio, in 1676, entitled, "The Antiquities of Nottinghamshire, extracted out of Records, Original Evidences, Leiger-Books, other Manuscripts, and authentic Authorities. Beautified with Maps, Prospects, and Portraitsures. By Robert Thoroton, Doctor of Physic." This work has become scarce, and a copy of it, I am told, fetched eighteen guineas, at the sale of the library of Mr. Rastal Dickenson, the historian of Southwell. A second edition, with additions, was published by Mr. Thoresby, in 4 vols. quarto, 1790; and it is to this that the marginal algorisms of these pages refer.

The surname of this family is derived from Thoroton, a village in this county, where the ancestors of the historian seem to have been seated in the time of the Lovetots; if indeed the Roger, with whom the Doctor begins his pedigree, was not himself a descendant of Nigel de Lovetot, and perhaps first denominated himself *De Thurovorton*, from the soc, or freehold, which he held.

† Plac. in Com. Nottingh. 8 Ed. I. assis. rot. 4.

‡ Pat. 7 Ric. II. p. 2. m. 3.

§ Ego Nigellus de Luvetot dedi canonicis de Radeford pro salute animæ meæ, &c. duas bovatas terræ de dominio meo in *Wishou*, unam ex parte illa quæ est apud *Boneiam*; alteram apud *Withmerpoll*. Test. Roberto de Luvetot et Hugone de Luvetot, et Henrico de Luvetot, &c.—*Ex Regist. de Worksop. Dodsworth MSS. cixvi. f. 13.*

things, granted the church, or rectory, of Wishou, late belonging to the priory of Worksop, with all lands and tenements belonging to it, to Thomas Ree and George Cotton.

*Tyreswell.*—*East-Hold*, where this church stood, was one of the portions of De Busli's Cond, that came to the Lovetots. It remained with the convent not long; for by fine 33, Edward I.,\* John, the prior of St. Cuthbert's, conveyed the advowson of the mediety of the church of *Tyreswell*, value £10, to William the dean, and the chapter of York, and their successors, with whom that half of the patronage now remains.

Richard de Lovetot, the son of the founder, confirmed† the gift of his father, William, above-mentioned, to God, and the holy church of St. Cuthbert, at Worksop, and the canons serving God there: he likewise added thereunto his part of the church of *Clareborough*, and two bovates of land in *Herthwick* at *Utwar*; and in Worksop, the land which was Wulvet the priest's, and Hugh his brother's, (to wit) that between the way and the park, and *Impecroft* to make a holt for twigs.‡ He confirmed, also, his own proper gift, which he made to that church after the death of his father; viz. the whole site of the town of Worksop, near the church, as it was shut in by the great ditch; the seat of a mill; with one dwelling-house; (*Mansura*;) and the meadow of *Buselin*,§ which is between the holt of the church (*virgultum ecclesiæ*) and the water. But on the other part of the water towards the north, the meadow and land by the bound of *Kilton*, from the water unto the way under the gallows, towards the south; and by the crosses, which he himself, and William his son, erected with their own hands; unto the moor, that is, the miry and moist plain, (*muccosam & humidam planiciem*;) the land, also, towards the south, from the head of the causeway, beyond the plain, as it was girt in by a ditch to the water. In *Manton*, he gave the mill, with the fish-pond: and all *Sloswick*. He confirmed, also, the gift of his mother Emma, which she made by his concession to the church of St. Cuthbert, viz., the mill of *Bolum*, with property in *Gringely*, *Asaley*, *Shireoaks*, *Hayton*, *Rampton*, *Normanton*, *Tuxford*, *Coleston*, *Wishou*,|| *Bolum*.

\* Eceat Nottingh. 32 Ed. I. n. 110. Pat. 33 Ed. I. p. i. m. 8. vel. 9. et m. ult vel penult.

† *Confirmatio Domini Ricardi de Lovetot, filii fundatoris.* "Notum sit universis sanctæ ecclesiæ, &c."—*Mon. Ang.* vol. ii. p. 50.

‡ "Virgultum faciendum." It is not quite obvious for what particular purpose these osiers were cultivated by the canons, whether to be used in the fabrication of wicker work in general, or for the wattling of buildings or fences; or probably for the reparation of their banks and bridges: that they were anciently appropriated to the latter use, appears from an act of parliament, 9 Hen. V., for making two new bridges near Abingdon, one clause of which provides, "that every man set willows or willows upon the banks, for mending of the

same."—*Prynne's Abridg.* p. 561. Several old willows are still to be seen in the neighbourhood of the Brasebridge, probably descendants of the ancient trees which once composed the abbey willow-garth.

§ Both the name and the locality of this ancient "*pratum Buselini*," may be recognized in the ground now called *The Buzzflings*, in front of Mr. Dunston's house.

|| Richard, the grandson of the founder, and who afterwards became his heir, when he confirmed the donations of his family, made, it should seem, some addition to the original grant out of this his lordship:—*Ricardus filius Nigelli de Luvetot dedit Deo de Radeford, 10 acras terræ de dominio suo in Wyshon*—*Ex Regist. de Wirk. Dods. MSS.* cxxvi. f. 13.

Also, the right of common on the whole town of Worksop, in wood and plain, with the ~~out~~gates, ways, and pastures: he also confirmed to the canons, the right of pasturage (pastionem) for their own swine in *Rumwood*; \* and, also, for the swine of their men in *Worksop* and *Sloswick*, as many as they shall keep for their own support, free and undisturbed pasturage in the same wood. And if, in any way, the aforesaid men should trespass on the conditions of this privilege, they shall be examined upon oath, and abide judgment in the court of St. Cuthbert. He also granted that the said canons should have two carts (duas habebat quadrigas) straying in his park of *Worksop*, for any kind of dry wood (siccum lignum) which they should find lying, except green and timber (viride & materie.)

He also confirmed the land of *Thorp*, of the gift of Walter de Hayer, and the grant of Roger his son.

This deed of confirmation of all the aforesaid grants, in perpetual alms, to the church of St. Cuthbert at Worksop, and the canons therein serving God, he made, by the consent of William, his son, who offered it, together with him, on the altar, for the souls of his father and mother, for himself and his said son William, also for all his parents, as well living as dead. The witnesses were, Robert de Meisnell, and Robert his son; Leonius de Maleverer, [Thoroton says it should be Malnuers] and Michael his son; Henry de Lovetot; Robert de Somervill, and Robert his son; Ralph de Lovetot; Jordan de Revenel, and Thomas his son; Ralph de Tortesmain; Fulco de Traitons; Odo de Eston, and Matthew his son; Nigellus, son of Godard.

It may now be proper to notice, a little more particularly, the various grants in this specification. Besides his moiety in the church of Clareborough, given as above, Ernauld Flamang, of

\* Leland says, "From *Wirkensope*, I rode along by the pale that environeth the great wood, caullid Room-wood, by the space of 2 miles and more, and there I passed over a little bridge, under the which renneth *Wilebeck* water, &c. The abbey of *Wilebeck* is about half a mile on the right hand above the aforesaid bridge. One Waulley hath bought this wood of the king. It longid, as I hard, to *Werkensop* priory."—*Itin. Edit. By Hearne*. 1768. vol. i. 2. p. 100.

This wood, so far from belonging to Worksop priory, seems chiefly to have been the property of Welbeck abbey. King Edward I., in the 29th year of his reign, "granted his whole part of the wood and soil of Rounwood, between the wood of the said abbat (of Welbeck) and the pare of Thos. de Furnival, extending itself by the king's highway, between *Wirkensop* and *Warsop*, towards the west, and containing 60 acres by the perch of the forest; together with that piece of land, called *Carberton Storth*, by the said wood, paying 28 shillings per annum for all services; which last the said abbat had licence to enclose, and make a park of, and to destroy and sell the wood, and assart the soil, &c."—*Thoroton*, vol. iii. p. 380.

In the British Museum, *Hart. MS. 4064*, entitled, "*Placita Foresta de Sherwood*," contains three or four articles, in which Worksop incidentally occurs; a copy of one of these, which, by the kindness of Henry Ellis, Esq., now lies before me, is a recitation of the above privilege, with other matters. It appears, from *Plac. de Banco*, 19 Ed. II., as well as from the calender of the Patent Rolls, that the prior of Worksop had a similar licence of imparcation in the same wood:—"Quod prior de Wyrksopp possit assartare et imparcare sex acras de solo regis infra boscum suum de Rumwood infra forest' de Nottingham."—*Cal. Rot. Pat.* p. 96. The same calender contains, likewise, the following entry, under 52 H. III.:—"Rex amortizavit priori de Worsop duas carectas bosci singulis diebus in boscis regis de Rumwoode et Cuthesland infra forestam de Shirewood."—P. 41. M. 8. These appropriations of the wood appear to have become portions of Welbeck, and Worksop parks, respectively. From Whalley, the first grantee, mentioned by Leland, the Welbeck estate passed successively through the families of Osborne, Booth, and Holles, to William, Duke of Portland, in 1794.

*Claverburgh*, by the consent of his heir Roger, gave to the church of St. Cuthbert the fourth part of the church of *Claverburgh*, and one bovate in *Hayton*, and a certain parcel of land in the field of *Bolome*. Roger his son was witness. This gift was likewise ratified by John, grandson of the above Arnald Fleming. Adam, son of the fore-mentioned John Flandrensis, granted to the canons of Worksop all the land which they held of his fee in the territory of *Hayton* and *Claverborough*. There was another charter, of like import, of Adam le Fleming, dated 5th nones July, 1244: afterwards, John, son of Adam le Fleming, released his right to the said canons.

The priory land at *Sloswick*, was granted, 27th April, 18 Elizabeth, to Roger Manners, and his heirs.

The mill at *Bolum* (*Bolome*, in the demesne of *Gringelei*, mentioned below,) was given to the priory by Emma de Lovetot, to purchase wine for the use of the mass: as was also the assart\* of *Asaley*, to make wafers (*oblatus faciendas*) for the celebration of the same sacrament.

In *Gringeleia*, (*Gringley-on-the-Hill*), as it is called in the charters, the priory had considerable property: it was, at the Doomsday period, in the hands of Roger de Busli; or, according to Thoroton, Roger, his *man*, or tenant, from whom, with other places, it passed to William de Lovetot, who gave, as above, his church at Gringley, confirmed by his son Richard; who likewise gave, in the same manner, by the church on the east side, a messuage (*mansura*) on the south side, another, for the proper houses of the canons, with a certain space to make an orchard, as it was enclosed by the bank; and the whole *graff* (*gravam*), as it was encompassed with the bank, and one *mansure* without the bank. These things Matildis de Lovetot confirmed, and also gave to the priory the wind-mill of *Gringelei*, with the suit of the whole township, so that the suit should be done as anciently it was wont. This mill, which was situate on the west side of the town, she gave for the soul of Sir William de Furnival, her youngest son, to whom she gave this manor. There were great disputes here about the conventual possessions, particularly the mill. In the eighth year of the reign of Edward the First, a jury found, that the prior of Worksop ought to receive the tythes of the yearly rents of malt, and of pannage, of hens, eggs, and of all other issues coming out of the manor of Gringley; and that all the priors of that place, his predecessors, were wont to have them, and were seized thereof in the time of Matilda de Lovetot, William de Furnival, and their ancestors, lords of the said manor of Gringley, until it came to the hands of Sir Henry de Allemania, whose bailiff took the said tythes from John, the predecessor of the said prior, and the bailiffs of Constantia, wife of the said Henry, then unjustly detained.† By a special verdict, taken in an assize, in the fourth year of the above monarch, as well as from the evidence of

\* An *assart*, was a piece of ground, which was *assarted*; i. e. grubbed or cleared, from *sarrio*, to weed: or, according to Nichols, as quoted by Ellis (*Introd. Dom. Boc.*) "Esarts was a forest-phrase for a cultivated spot, from the French *assartir*, to make plain."

† *Esceat*. Nottingh. 8 Ed. I. n. 72, *pro decimis brassi, pannagii, gallinar, ovorum, etc. in maner. de Grengia*.

another hearing, in the 19th year of Edward the Second, it appeared, that Matilda de Lovetot was seized of the manor of Gringeley, and gave, by her deed, to the prior of Worksop, the wind-mill there: that she afterwards gave the manor to William de Furnival, her son, who had possession of the mill all his life, but dying without heir, the said manor reverted to Matilda, who again enfeoffed the said prior of the said mill, and then died. After her death, John de Vesey seized the said manor, and ejected the said prior, and so held it until the battle of *Evesham*, where he was taken. Thomas de Furnival, whose right and inheritance this manor ought to have been, compounded with Edward the First and Henry de Allemaine, viz. that the said Thomas should enfeoff the said Henry of the manor, to hold to him and his heirs; remainder to Edward the First; which Henry dying without heir, the king gave the manor to Constantia his wife, in tenancy. And the jury found precisely, that John de Vesey, and his servants, did unjustly eject the said prior out of the said mill. But this is not all; for, afterwards, the said prior, 5th Edward I., complained, that, before judgment given, Richard, son of Albred, with 40 others, by the commandment and mission of Henry de Luffenham, constable of Tickhill, with force and arms, pulled down the said mill, &c. There appears to have been some ground for these proceedings, for William de Aune, constable of Tickhill, made it appear, and the prior denied not, that the mill then (viz. 19 E. II.) stood not where it did of old, on the soil of the prior, but two selions off, on the soil of the king: therefore the prior had order, if he pleased, to build it where it formerly stood, and to recover the suit of it by the common law: the prior seems to have done so; for, adds Thoroton, "there was more ado afterwards, concerning this mill and the suit to it, in the former part of Edward the Third's reign."

Respecting this place, it may further be added, that the vicarage of Gringeley, was £8 when the prior of Worksop was patron; and it was granted 7 Edward VI., May 4, to Sir James Foljambe, Knight, and his heirs, for which they were to pay annually £22 13s. 4d. This somewhat prolix account, may serve as a specimen of the squabbles in which remote grants sometimes involved the heads of religious houses.

The grant at *Shireoaks*, was the mill, with one dwelling, and, in the same village, one bovat, which was Aurwy's, the son of Birxi, with another mansure; and all the ground between the water and the boundary of *Thorp*, by the way going down to *Stiveleia*, [*Staveley*?] unto the water of *Holmkar*, except the fish-pond.

In *Hayton*, was an assart, called *Sotsuni*. Thoroton says, that Henry VIII., in the 38th year of his reign, 16th August, granted to Robert and Hugh Thornhill, and their heirs, a mess. in Hayton, in the tenure of Thomas Peke, and a grange there, in the tenure of Richard Peke, both lately belonging to the monastery of *Worksop*; which grange they had licence, 29th October, that year, to settle on Richard Pecke for life, remainder to Humphrey Pecke, his son and heir, The grange and lands, at the dissolution, were rated or rented at £3 15s. 4d.\*

\* Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 284.

In *Rampton*, one fishery. *Rampton* is on the *Trent*; and it does not appear that the *Worksop* family had any other possessions here.

In his lordship of *Normanton*, one meadow, with the appurtenances. *Gresthorp* and *Normanton*, as portions of De Busli's fee, came to William de Lovetot, who gave the church of *Normanton* to the priory of *Worksop*. Matilda, his great grandchild, who married Gerard de Furnival, gave the manor of *Gresthorp*, with the appurtenances, and *Whiston*, in Yorkshire, except the advowson of that church, to Alda, who had been wife to William de Furnival, (her son,) in lieu of her dower, in the manors of *Gringeleigh*, *Whiston*, and *Gresthorp*, during her life; but it seems, that, before 52 Henry III., Thomas de Furnival had disseized the said Alda of her freehold in *Whiston* and *Handsworth*.\*

In *Tuxford*, the convent had four bovates of land.

*Coleston*, *Wishou*, and *Bolum*, have been noticed.

The following grant may as well be recorded here:—In the time of William, Archbishop of York, who lived in the 18th year of the reign of King Stephen, William de Clarifagio, and Avicia his wife, who was daughter and heir of William de Tanaia, gave to the church of St. Cuthbert, of Radford, three bovates of land in *Hermedeston*, with the common of that town, for the souls of William de Tanaia and Hugh de Lovetot, and for the redemption of their own souls, and of all their parents, as well living as dead: the witnesses were, Robert de Lusoriia, Oto de Tilli, and Robert Britt, of *Stiveley*.

Among the conventual necessities, it may be supposed, that wood, for firing, would constitute an indispensable article; and this was especially the case, in places where coal was either not supposed to exist, or where it was not dug; for, at the period to which we refer, very few pits were worked, and the island being full of forests, dry wood was burned generally throughout the kingdom.† It was, therefore, a privilege of no small importance, which Richard de Lovetot granted as above to the canons, to collect dry wood in his park. It appears, however, that the canons afterwards either encroached upon the terms, or subsequent lords were willing to diminish the privileges of the grant; for, in a court of pleas of jury and assize, held at *Derby*, in the 53d

\* Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 179.

† The use of fire, as well for the purposes of warmth, as of cooking, has much increased during the last two centuries, and, consequently, improvements have been made in the construction of its receptacles. We have lately been surprised by the increase of chimnies in our churches: Our forefathers were still more struck by their general adoption in private dwelling-houses. Harrison, in his description of Britain, prefixed to Hollinshed, makes the following remarks:—"There are old

men, dwelling in the village where I remayne, who have noted three things to be marvelously altered in Englande within their aunnd remembrance. One is, the multitude of chimnies lately erected; whereas, in their younge dayes, there were not above two or three, if so many, in most uplandish towns of the realm (the religious houses, and manor places of the lordes always excepted, and peradventure some great personages,) but each made his fire against a *vera-dore* in the hall, where he dined and dressed his meat," &c.—*Holl.* p. 84. vol. i.



year of the reign of Henry III., the prior of Worksop offered himself, the fourth day, against Thomas de Furnival, in a plea, wherefore he made waste, sale, and destruction of his park of Worksop, by which means the said prior could not, as he ought, have two carts to bring dry wood every day to the monastery.

Cecilia, the wife of Richard de Lovetot, son of the founder, gave the church of *Annesley*, with its appurtenances: likewise the church of *Dinisley*, in Hertfordshire, which, among the donations of her husband's father, and others, was confirmed by Pope Alexander, A.D. 1161. This Richard de Lovetot gave (when its inhabitant was dead) an hermitage, in the parish of *Ecclesfield*, in Yorkshire, with all its appurtenances, to the monks of *Kirkstead*, in Lincolnshire, "for his own health, that of William his son, Cecilia his wife, and others."\*

This William de Lovetot, on the day of his father's burial, gave and confirmed to God, St. Mary, and St. Cuthbert, and the canons of *Radeford*, the tythe of all his rents, which he then had, or ever should have, and wheresoever, on this side or beyond the sea. It was during the life of the above Richard, that the bull, or charter of confirmation, was obtained from Pope Alexander the Third. It may not be uninteresting to the reader to peruse the substance of this curious papal instrument, which seems to be as follows:—

"Alexander, bishop, servant of servants, to the beloved children of God, to William, prior of the church of St. Cuthbert, of *Radeford*, and to his brethren, as well present as future, who profess regularity of life, for ever. It is determined to grant funeral rites to those who desire them: justice and reason alike demand this; especially when piety favours and truth does not oppose the application. On account of these things, my beloved children in the Lord, we graciously assent to your reasonable requests, and take the aforesaid church, in which, by Divine permission, ye are ministers, under the protection of ourselves and the blessed Peter: and we defend the same by virtue of this present writing. In the first place, we decree, that the regulations of the canonical order, established according to the fear of God, and the rule of the blessed Augustine, be most strictly maintained and observed in the same place for ever. Moreover, that whatever goods or possessions the same church may at this time rightly and canonically possess, or may hereafter obtain, by the favour of popes, the bounty of kings, the oblations of the faithful, or by any other lawful means for propitiating God, remain fixed and undisturbed to you and your successors: amongst which we have thought the following things ought to be specially enumerated:—Of the gift of William de Lovetot, the founder of this church, the site thereof, with the lands, tythes, and all appurtenances.—[Then follows a recitation, in substance, of the estates and privileges, previously enumerated in the founder's charter, &c.]—We also confirm, by this page of our writing, all liberties and privileges granted by kings and princes, in pious dedication.

“ Be it so, that no one may presume to demand tythes of you of the lands, which yourselves till, or of the food of your animals: but in the parish churches which ye hold, it may be lawful for you to chuse priests from among your brethren, and present them to the bishop, to whom they shall be accountable for the spiritual care of the people; but to you, concerning the temporalities of the said churches. Moreover, it shall not be lawful for any ecclesiastic, or secular person, to make any unwarrantable demands, or unjustly to impose grievances, upon the priests abiding in those churches.

“ We grant, also, that there shall be free burial at the same place, and that none may oppose the donation of those, who, by their last will, have determined to be buried there, unless they happen to have been excommunicated, or interdicted; and reserving the canonical rights of the mother church, and of those parish churches, whence the dead are taken. And when there shall happen to be a general interdict of the land, it may be lawful for you, the doors being closed, the excommunicated and interdicted excluded, and no bells rung, to celebrate divine service, in a low tone of voice. Moreover, when thou who art now prior, or any of thy successors, shall decease, no one shall be set over the convent by individual appointment, neither by stratagem, nor violence; but he whom the brethren, by common consent, or a majority of them, of sound judgment, shall previously have thought fit to be elected, according to the fear of God, and the rule of the blessed Augustine.\* And we decree, that it shall, by no means, be lawful for any person rashly to disturb the aforesaid church, or to take away any of its possessions, or having taken them away, to detain or diminish the same, or waste them by any vexations; but all things shall be maintained entire, for the purposes for which they were originally granted: reserving the authority of the Apostolic See, and the canonical rights of the Diocesan Bishop. If, in future, therefore, any ecclesiastical or secular person, knowing this page of our constitution, shall rashly attempt to act contrary to it, he, being warned a second or a third time, unless he correct his presumption, and make a suitable reparation, let him be deprived of the credit of his power and honour; and let him know that he is obnoxious to the Divine judgment, on account of the crime so committed; and let him be estranged from the most sacred body and blood of God, and of the Lord Jesus Christ our Redeemer: and, in the last examination, let him be subject to his severe vengeance. But peace be to all the servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, in this place, by his authority, to the end that they may here receive the fruit of their good deeds; and, at the last dreadful judgment, they may reap the reward of eternal peace. Amen. Amen. Amen. Given at *Anagnia*, by the hand of *Hemanni*, subdeacon and notary of the holy Roman Church, the 22d day of January, in the eighth of the Indiction, and year of our Lord's incarnation, 1161; the second year of the pontifical dignity of our Lord Pope Alexander the Third.”†

“ *Henricus Rex Angliæ, & dux Normanniæ & Aquitaniæ, & Comes Andegaviæ, Archiepiscopis*

\* This recommendation of foresight, with reference to the election of a successor, after the death of a prior, was admirably calculated to prevent discord among the brethren.

† *Monast. Ang.* vol. ii. p. 53.

(&c.) *Salutem. Sciatis, me concessisse & confirmasse, Deo & Ecclesiæ Sancti Cuthberti de Radeford, & Canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus donationem quam fecit Willielmus de Luvetot, & Ricardus filius ejus; videlicet Ecclesiam de Radeford, &c.*"\* These words are the exordium of the royal charter of confirmation granted to the priory, by King Henry II., in the first year of his reign, 1154. It appears, however, from the expression, "*sicut Carta regis Henrici avi mei*,"† used in the instrument, that the priory had previously enjoyed a similar charter, even so early as the time of Henry I.‡ After reciting the grants then appending to the convent, the document goes on to state the royal will, that the church of St. Cuthbert, and the canons aforesaid, shall "have and hold all the aforesaid property, with all things pertaining thereto; with all the liberties, free customs, and quittances of the same; in woodland and plain, in meadows and pastures, in ways and passages, in waters and mills, in parks and fisheries, within the burg and without,§ and in all places and in all things, well and peaceably, freely, quietly, and honourably, as they used to be, according to the charter of King Henry my grandfather, and their charters who left the donations. Witnesses—Rogerio Archiepiscopo Eboracensi, Roberto Lincolnensi Episcopo; & Roberto Comite Legrecestriæ, & Richardo de Luci, & Henrico filio Gerardi, Camerario, apud Nottingham."

The above charter, besides the places already mentioned, includes one or two others, with which I am unacquainted, they are "Ex dono Gilberti de Menill terram de *Hirst*, cum molendino, & dimidiam bovatum terræ in *Belh*. Ex dono Roberti de *Stiveleya* sex bovates terræ in *Neuehalla*. Ex dono Aliciæ Filie Wil. de Taneya tres bovates terræ in *Hermodestan*.—Terram suam de *Hertheby*." This latter might seem to be *Hareby*, in the parish of Clifton, but Thorton does not mention any conventual possessions there.

On the death of William de Lovetot, the founder's grandson, his cousin Richard became his heir, and confirmed the donations of his family to the priory.‖ His confirmation was witnessed by the following persons:—Roberto de Meinell, Philippo Monacho, Henrico de Luvetot, Rogero Gernun, Roberto filio Pagini, Robert de Luvet, Thoma Capellano, Henrico Clerico camerario, Reynero dispensatore, and multis aliis.

\* *Mónast. Ang.* p. 54.

† The reader will recollect, that Henry II. was the grandson of Henry I.

‡ Such a charter appears likewise to be referred to in the following transcript:—

Adhuc ex registro prioratus de Workesop.

Placita de quo warranto in com. Derb. 4 Ed. III. m. 18.

Prior de Wyrkesop clamat quietancias predictas per ch. H. I. et dicit quod dicta ecclesia quæ tunc dicebatur ecclesia

quæ Mariæ de Radeford, nunc nuncupatur ecclesia beate Mariæ de Wyrkesop.—*Dodsworth MS.* cxxvi. f. 146. b.

§ "Infra burgum et extra," in the original. Of the meaning and derivation of *bury*, as used in ancient writings, there are various opinions: in the grant above, it probably refers to the castle, or its immediate jurisdiction.—*See Collectana Curiosa*, vol. ii. p. 408, for some remarks on the term.

‖ *Concessio & confirmatio Ricardi filii Nigelli de Lovetot.* "Omnibus filiis sanctæ ecclesiæ ad quos præsens Carta pervenit, Ricardus de Lovetot, salutem, &c."—*Mon. Ang.* vol. ii. p. 50.

It may be proper, in this place, to take some notice of the appropriation of *Felley* priory, as a cell to the Worksop house. Ralph de Brito, and his son Reginald de Annesley, gave the church of Felley to the priory of St. Cuthbert, of Radford, in the second year of Henry II., 1156. Shortly afterwards, "Alexander papa (tertius) per bullam suam datum XI Kal. Feb. A.D. MCLXI., inter alia, confirmavit Ecclesiæ S. Mariæ de Workesop, ex dono Radulphi Britonis, locum de Felley, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis." This is from the *Monasticon*: it appears, however, by the following extract from the register of Felley, that in less than a century afterwards, serious disputes arose between the superior convent and this little priory, owing, it is likely, to the growing wealth and power of the latter. "John, the prior and convent of Worksop, seeing that many times contentions were moved between them and the prior and convent of Felley, both because they were wont to receive ten shillings of that house yearly, due to them from the beginning of it, by the imposition of the founder, and also challenged certain subjections and obediences, and to have interest and voice in their elections, and for these causes saw themselves burdened and wearied with expensive and laborious prosecutions, as well as the said house in the like defences; by the advice and consent of the Reverend Father and Lord Godefr., Archbishop of York, released all in his presence: the rest of the witnesses being the Abbots of Rufford and Welbeck; the Priors of St. Oswald, Thurgarton, Newstead, and Shelford; Mr. John Clarell, Sir Richard de Sutton, canon of Southwell, Sir Robert de Stotevill, Walter de Ludham, Reginald de Annesley, Galfr. Barri, Simon de Aslacton, knights; Sir William, rector of the church of Kirkeby, Alexander de Wandesley, and others; for which release, Henry, prior of Felley, and the convent of that place, granted to the church and canons of Worksop, the yearly rent of twenty shillings; which composition was confirmed by the said Godefr., Archbishop of York, by his instrument dated at Scrooby, 5 non. March, 1260, and in the third year of his pontificate."

From the number and the respectability of the witnesses to the above arrangement, it seems to have been an affair of importance; and, it is probable, that from this time all connection between the priories of Felley and Worksop ceased, except the above obventional payment. In the next century, we find the junior house demanding inspeximus and registry of their evidences; but as the account of this business, although very interesting, does not immediately concern Worksop, and would in this place, too much interrupt the narrative before us, it shall be given in a note below.\*

Gerard de Furnival, who had married Matilda de Lovetot, daughter of William, at the request of his wife, granted to God, and the church of St. Mary, and St. Cuthbert, of *Radeford*,

\* "In the year from the incarnation, according to the course and computation of the English church, 1311, in the 6th year of Pope Clement the Fifth, May 6, the prior and canons of the monastery of Felley, of the order of St. Austin, having the parish church for their proper uses, appeared in

Southwell church, before the official of the Archdeacon of Nottingham, and humbly besought him, that their ancient evidences, whilst they were yet perfect, might be published and recorded; whereupon he cited Sir Thomas, rector of the parish church of Kirkeby, Sir John, Lord of Annesley, Knight,

and the canons there, for the health of his soul, and the soul of his said wife, and of his mother Andel, or Andeluga, and of his brother Galfred, and all their ancestors and successors, pasture for 40 head of cattle in his park of Worksop, every year, from the close of Easter, till the feast of St. Michael.\* He likewise granted the right of pasturage for 40 cows, with their young ones, under three years old, in the forest of Riveling, near Sheffield, Yorkshire: Also, an oxgang of land in Stannington field, near the same place, probably for a place on which to erect sheds for the said cattle. The above-mentioned Andel, had not only, for her soul's health, the prayers of the monks of Worksop, but likewise an annual commemoration, or obit, every 20th of January, at *Beauchief*, in Derbyshire.† Matilda, daughter and heir of the last William de Lovetot, not only persuaded her husband to make the above liberal grant of pasturage, but, after his death, she gave a mark of yearly rent, out of her mill at Worksop, to be received annually on the day after St. Luke the Evangelist, for a pittance for the use of that convent, who ought to celebrate the anniversary of Sir Gerard de Furnival, her late husband. Her brother, Ernulph de Mandevill, was a witness to this grant.

and Sir William de Manthorp, priest of Lincoln diocese, whom the matter chiefly concerned, to appear the Friday next after the Feast of the Ascension the same year, in the church of St. Mary, at Nottingham, before him, to shew cause canonical of impediment, if they had any; but they not appearing, there was produced a writing which had an oblong seal, of very old white wax hanging at it, the impression whereof contained the figure of a certain woman, standing in the middle of the seal, and holding her right hand upon her right side, and carrying above her left hand, stretched out, the sign of a bird. The (inscription upon the) circumference was, *Sigillum Leonie de Raines*. The tenor (of the writing) that Leonia de Raines, and Henry de Stutivill, her son and heir, gave the church of Annesley, with all its liberties and appurtenances, to God and the blessed Mary of Felley, and the canons there serving God, for the health of King Henry, son of the empress, and Robert de Stutivill, and her and their ancestors; for which they were to find one canon, and light to celebrate for the souls of the fore-mentioned King Henry, and Richard de Stutivill, and their ancestors, and for her and hers: the witnesses were, William, the chaplain, Hugh, parson of Kirkeby, John, his brother, William de Mara, Alan de Bosco, Ralph de Yvetoft, &c. There was another writing produced, whereat was hanging a round seal, of old white wax, the impression whereof contained the figure of a lion passant, and the circumference was, *Sigillum Reynaldi de Annesley*: it imported, that Reynald de Annesley, at the request of his father Radulph le Brett, gave to St. Mary, and the house of Felley, and the brethren of that place, the dominion and whole right of his patronage, which he had in the church of Annesley, in pure alms, for the health (or safety) of himself, and of his wife, and his heirs, and for the refreshment of all his parents departed: the witnesses were, Andrew, the canon of Southwell, Drogo, brother of the

said Reynald, Alan, the chaplain of Suel, Robert, son of Azor, Lisia de Barton, Reginald de Insula, William Bretton, Hugh de Annesley, Daniel, son of Swan de Annesley. There was also another writing, with an oblong seal, of old green wax, hanging at it, the impression whereof contained the image of a certain bishop, standing in his pontificals, holding his episcopal staff in his left hand, and lifting up his right hand to bless; the circumference of it being, *Sigillum Gaufridi Dei gratia Ebor. Archiepi*: the tenor whereof imported, that Gaufr., by the grace of God, Archbishop of York, and Primate of England, seeing the controversy between Leona de Raines, and Henry her son, and Reginald de Annesley, and Hugh, parson of the church of Kirkeby, concerning the church of Annesley, was appeased in his presence by all of them, giving their right to the canons of Felley; he therefore confirmed it to them for their proper uses. There likewise were produced letters apostolical, signed with the subscriptions of very many cardinals, and their marks, consigned with a true leaden bull, (or seal,) hanging in a silk string; in which bull, on one side, appeared the heads of the blessed Peter and Paul the apostles, with superscriptions set to them on the accustomed manner; and on the other side was coined Celestinus Papa III: the tenor of it imported, that Pope Celestine the Third took the church, and prior, and convent of Felley into his own and St. Peter's protection, and confirmed to them the rule of St. Augustine, for ever." Then follows a specification of property, and orders canonical, similar to what has been mentioned before in connection with Worksop.—*Regist. de Felley, and Thorston*, vol. ii. pp. 271-2.

\* Dodsworth MSS. cxxvi. f. 17.

† Pegge's *Beauchief*.

This was sometime during the former half of the thirteenth century, when the excess of pious zeal in some, and the interested collusion of others in giving lands to the monasteries, had been checked by the crown, through the various statutes of Mortmain;\* and the baronage, as Mr. Hunter observes,† had, by this time, begun to find, that, in the monastic bodies, which they had so amply endowed in the first century and half after the conquest, they must expect to find, not humble and grateful dependants, but audacious and formidable rivals. They did not, however, continues he, neglect to pay their benefactors in the cheap coin of commemorative masses; and it was the good fortune of the wife, as of the mother, of Gerard de Furnival, to have the prayers of the religious, long after her decease, in the churches of Beauchief and Worksop.

This growing power of the monastic bodies,‡ with a decreasing disposition on the part of the nobility to submit to their insolence and exorbitant exactions, were the causes of frequent disputes between the heads of houses, and the descendants of their founders. It appears, from the register of the Worksop house, that there arose great controversies, concerning many demands, on both sides, between Matilda, the wife of Gerard de Furnival, and Walter, the prior of the convent of Worksop; and that the said Matilda, in her free widowhood and lawful power, on the day of the translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, in the 33d of Henry III., confirmed all the donations of William de Lovetot, her father, Richard de Lovetot, her grandfather, and Gerard de Furnival, her late husband;§ giving, besides her other favours, “de tota illo bosco in parochia de Wyrkesop, qui vocatur Staddeburgehaved, cum pertinentiis, in liberam, puram, & perpetuam eleemosinam.”|| She likewise gave, for the safety of her own soul, and the souls of her sons, Tho-

\* Mortmain, from *mortuus manus*, property invested in a dead hand, and such as is never again to revert to the donor. The foundation of all the statutes of mortmain, is said to be Magna Charta. By stat. 9 H. III. c. 36, it is declared, “that it shall not be lawful for any to give his lands to any religious house, and to take the same land again to hold of the same house, &c., upon pain that the gift shall be void, and the land shall accrue to the lord of the fee.”

By the common law, any man might dispose of his lands, to any other private man, at his own discretion, especially when the feudal restraints of alienation were worn away. Yet, in consequence of these, it was always, and still is necessary, for corporations, to have a licence in mortmain from the crown, to enable them to purchase lands: for as the king is the ultimate lord of every fee, he ought not, unless by his own consent, to lose his privilege of escheats and other feudal profits, by vesting of lands in tenants that can never be attained or die.

† Hallamshire, p. 33.

‡ Not only among the opulent members of the community at large, were the effects of this system severely felt, but also in the senate, where it was concentrated in the represen-

tatives of the religious. In the 49th year of the reign of Henry III., sixty-four abbots, and thirty-six priors, were summoned to Parliament, including, among the latter, the prior of Worksop.—Fuller, lib. iv. p. 202. The parliamentary prior alluded to, appears to have been John, who was elected about 1260. Whether or not the superior of the Worksop house sat in more than one parliament, does not appear: it was found, however, necessary to check the preponderancy of clerical influence hence arising; so that, in the reign of Edward III., the number of heads of houses is said to have been reduced to twenty-five abbots, and two priors.

§ Her charter is entitled, *Confirmatio Matildis de Lovetot filie & heredis W. de Lovetot*.

“Omnibus Christi fidelibus hanc Cartam visuris vel audituris, Matildis de Lovetot, Salutem. &c.”—*Monast. Angl.* vol. ii. p. 52.

|| Dodsworth MSS. vol. cxxvi., page 146, b., gives the following extract from the Priory Register:—Sub titulo *Staddeburgehaved*. Omnibus, &c. Robertus le Sauuage salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse canonicis de Wyrkesop totum jus in communia herbagii et bosci in bosco qui vocatur Staddeburtheued in parochia de Wyrkesop. Test. domino Ri-

mas and Gerard, her whole land, which she had in the territory of *Wellome*, with the homages and services of the men and their sequels. She likewise quit-claimed the canons of all suit and service at her court, as appears by the following instrument:—"To all the faithful in Christ, who shall see or hear this charter of Matilda de Lovetot, formerly wife of Gerard de Furnival, greeting. Your community will take notice, that I, in good faith, by my own authority, and in my widowhood, for the health of my soul, and the souls of my ancestors and successors, release (*quietum clamasse*) for myself and my heirs for ever, to the priory of Worksop, and to the canons there worshipping God, all manner of suit of court, belonging to myself or my heirs; so that neither I nor my heirs may demand from them any suit of court, henceforward. In witness whereof I have affixed my seal to this writing."\*

There is yet another document preserved in the Monasticon, being a royal charter of immunities,† of which the following is the exordium:—"Henry [III.] King of England, Duke of Normandy and Aquitania, and Earl of Andegavia: to the justices, sheriffs, and all his officers and faithful servants throughout all England, and specially of sea-ports, greeting. I grant, and strictly enjoin, that the canons of the church of St. Mary, of Radeford, and all their men, and all their goods, which their men may have in charge for their own proper use, be free from toll, custom paid at ferries, and pontage, and from all other customs every where, throughout my realm of England. Therefore, I forbid, that any one unjustly disturb them from this time on account of this matter, or do them any wrong or affront, on pain of forfeiting ten pounds. Witness, Godfrey, archdeacon of Canterbury, at the Castle of the Peak." After reciting and confirming all the grants of benefactors, the instrument thus concludes:—"(&c.) ratas habentes & gratas, (&c.) confirmamus, (&c.) Dat: per manum nostram apud Lincoln, decimo quarto die Februarii, anno Regni nostri nono."

This last-mentioned document recognizes several grants not noticed in the preceding charters, and which it may now be proper to particularize. After reciting the donation of all *Sloswick*, two dwellings, &c., at *Gringeley*; the whole of *Bolum*; and common right in *Worksop*, the charter

cardi Abbate de Rupe; dominis Roberto de Herkirsalle, et Reginaldo de Meynill militibus; domina M. de Luuetot; Henrico de Suwell; Andrea de la Rivere.—*Orig. f. 160.*

Gerardus filius domini Roberti le Sauuage quietem clammavi canonicis de Wyrkesop totam clameam quam habui in communia herbagii et bosci in bosco qui vocatur Stodeburgheved, &c. Test. domino Gervasio de Bernakes.—*Orig. f. 161.*

\* This is intituled, "*Quieto clamatio domine Matildis de Lovetot, de Secta Curia.*"

The witnesses were, "Dominis Willielmo de Furnivall; Roberto de Mounteny; Hugone de Capella; Nicholao de Tyrvill Militibus; Ivone de Eton; tunc temporis Constabularis de

Tykehill; Nicholao de Ordeshall; Willielmo de Venella; Willielmo de Gateford; Hugone dispensatore, & aliis."

† "*Carta ejusdem Regis Henrici pro immunitate Tolnati, &c.*" This is the title in the Monasticon, from which it would appear, either that the preceding charter, ascribed to Henry II., belongs to this monarch, or *vice versa*: but the signature of Roger, Archbishop of York, ascertains the period of the former charter to be the reign of the first Plantagenet; while Mr. Hunter (*Hallamshire*, p. 130) assigns this grant to the fourth monarch of that line. Both these Henries were grandsons to their predecessors of the same name; Henry II. being the son of Matilda, second child of Henry I., by Geoffrey Plantagenet, Duke of Anjou; and Henry III. was the son of King John, and consequently grandson to Henry II.

states, that the swine of the canons should have free and quiet feeding in *Roomwood*; and, likewise, that the hogs of their men (or servants) at Worksop and Sloswick should have their proper nutriment in the same wood. After noticing the privilege of collecting dry wood in Worksop park, and confirming the property of Shireoaks, the charter proceeds, "Et de illa portione in Ecclesia de Schefeld, quam Radulphus & Willielmus Sacerdotes in illa habuerunt; videlicet de omnibus decimis plenarie tertiam partem in omnibus, cum terris ad eandem Ecclesiam pertinentibus, & oblationibus, & obventionibus altaris, sicuti præfati sacerdotes eas unquam melius habuerunt." The noble church at Sheffield, in Yorkshire, was founded by the De Lovetots, "and the tythe of the parish, at this period," says Mr. Hunter,\* "was, according to primitive custom, divided into three parts; but these three parts were not appropriated according to the intentions of those by whom the tithing system was introduced; for two-thirds went to the monks of St. Wandrille, from whom, as far as appears, the inhabitants of Sheffield received no services in return; and the remaining third to the monks of Worksop, who were allowed to make what bargain they pleased with the officiating clerk." One of the brotherhood of the Nottinghamshire house was deputed to reside at Sheffield, as the vicar, till the dissolution of the monastery.† To return to the charter: the next items record the church of *Dinesley*, with its appurtenances; the property of *Walkeringham*, at *Wishou*; and at *Thorp*,—two selions of land, which William, the son of the dean, had, constituted the grant at the latter place. These are followed by the confirmation of the four marks given by Gerard Furnival, annually, out of his mill at Worksop: pasture for forty cows in the park at the same place, and two bovates, with the appurtenances, at *Shireoaks*; two tofts at *Walkeringham*; and one toft at Worksop, given by Henry de Lovetot: likewise, one bovat in *Stannington* field; and pasture for forty cows and their young in *Rivelin*, as mentioned before.

Robert de Summervill, the same who witnessed the grant of Richard de Lovetot, himself gave to the monastery three marks of rent annually out of his mill at Worksop: after the confirmation of this rent, the charter proceeds:—"Concessionem etiam, donationem & confirmationem, quas Gerardus de Furnivall fecit eisdem canonicis de Capella de *Bradefeld* cum pertinentiis puram & perpetuam eleemosinam." I cite this clause, recognising the donation of the above chapel to the canons, because Mr. Hunter seems to have overlooked the fact, in his pleasing account of the chapelry, to which it gives name.‡ Next follows, the grant of Thomas de Furnivall to the canons, of five marks annually, arising out of his mill of *Brightside*,§ the alder grove, called *half-acre*, and another *alneto*, with an assart, called *Prestforth*; pasturage at *Knote*, and the common of *Stannington*, with appurtenances: these are in the neighbourhood

\* Hallamshire, p. 27.

† It may be noticed here, that Thomas de Furnival, who obtained a charter, 54 Henry III., to make a castle of his manor house at Sheffield, entered into an agreement with the prior and convent of Worksop, that they should find him two chaplains and a clerk, to administer divine service in the

chapel of this castle, for which he was to pay them five marks yearly.—Hallamshire, p. 37.

‡ Hallamshire, p. 269.

§ *Ibid.* p. 226. I am indebted to Mr. Hunter for this notice, which is *Brakeshort* in the original.



of Sheffield. Matilda de Lovetot's gift of *Staddeburghaved*, in the parish of Worksop, and a mark of annual rent out of her mill there. The property in *Wellome*; the whole of *Gringeley*, with the mill and suit thereof, at the same place. The third part of the mill, belonging to Thomas de Furnivall, at Bradfield, with suit of his mill of that soke; the property at *Hayton*—Robert de Everingham, for the health of his soul, and of Isabella his wife, quit-claimed to Walter the prior of Worksop, &c., the suit to his court of *Leyrton*, for the land held of his fee by that priory in the town of *Hayton*. At the dissolution, Henry VIII. granted to Robert and Hugh Thornhill, and their heirs, a messuage and a grange in *Hayton*, both lately belonging to the monastery: they were rated at £3 15s. 4d., and 2s. chief rent. Six marks, arising out of the mill at Bradfield, with free and peaceable ingress and egress at all times of the year.

The church of St. Ellen, with its appurtenances, with other property, at *Burton-on-Trent*, is next confirmed: Gaufridus de Malquinci, lord of *Burton*, after the conquest, gave to the canons the above church, to which gift, his nephew Galfred de Paveli was a witness, who besides confirming the charter of his said uncle, himself gave lands in *Saundeby*. Richard de Rutington confirmed to the said canons the advowson of the church of St. Ellen, and remitted, likewise, his whole right and claim in all the lands and tenements, which Galfred Malquinci, his ancestor, gave them. It appears, that this grant was afterwards disputed; for there was a fine at Westminster 17 Henry III., between Walter, prior of Worksop, querist, and Richard de Rutington, deforciant, of the advowson of the church of *Burton*, which was appropriated to the monastery, to which, also, Richard de Rudington gave and confirmed lands in this *Burton*. The prior of Worksop, 53 Henry III., offered himself against Robert de Sandeby, concerning the plea (*quod permittat*) that he should permit him to have common of fishing in the water of *Burton*.\* The rectory of *Burton*, as it had belonged to the priory, with all messuages, mills, houses, edifices, lands, tenements, meadows, &c., to it belonging, were granted to William Nevill, gent., and his heirs, 3rd March, 36 Henry VIII.

The church, with its appurtenances, and other property at *Osburton* are next confirmed: to which may be added the following particulars:—Robert, son of Ranulph, by the consent of William his heir, gave to God and the Church of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert at *Radeford*, the church of *Osburton*—*Domino Adamo Abbate de Wellebec*, witness. The said William confirmed his father's gift, as, afterwards, did also his son Robert. Walter, archbishop of York, appropriated it. Thomas de Chaworth confirmed the donations of his ancestors; viz. the gift of the church, with the appurtenances, together with the lands which Robert, son of William de Alfreton, grandfather to the above Thomas, quit-claimed, lying between *Appelhayaved*, (*Appleyhead*), and the wood of *Osburton*, which land was formerly in contention between the said Robert, son of the said William de Alfreton, and Robert de Pickburn, sometime prior of Worksop; and there was also a fine levied of this advowson, 47 Henry III., between Thomas de Chaworth and John,

\* *Plac. in Com. Derb.* 53 Hen. III. assis. rot. 19.

prior of Worksop. This same Thomas gave and granted to the prior and convent, that way in *Osberton* which lay between the church yard of the same town, on the west, and the manor of the convent of Worksop on the east, and stretched itself in length from the north to the south of that churchyard. Roger de Norton, cutter, (scissor) likewise gave to the canons, all his lands, with their appurtenances in *Osberton*.

The Robert Fitz-Ranulph, above-mentioned, is the same who has generally been considered as one of the murderers of Thomas Becket, and was the founder of *Beauchief* Abbey, in Derbyshire, built, as Tanner, Dugdale, and others, have asserted, as an atonement for the guilt of that deed. Dr. Pegge, in his curious history of this abbey, labours ingeniously to prove, that Fitz-Ranulph was not concerned in the murder of the archbishop; and, consequently, that the foundation was clear of his blood.

Matilda de Lovetot and her husband Gerard de Furnivall, were benefactors to *Beauchief*, which," observes Dr. Pegge, "was but a becoming and gracious return for the present of Robert, to Worksop," for it appears, that Robert bestowed this blessing on the Nottinghamshire house, after the erection of his own abbey.

King Henry the Eighth, in the 32d year of his reign, July 3, granted *Osberton* Grange, in the parish of Worksop, to Robert Dighton, Esquire, and his heirs, amongst other things; together with *Gravestone*, in *Oxton*, *Hardwick* Grange, and *Hardwick* Wood, late belonging to the Priory of Worksop, paying for the lands in *Oxton* 2s., for *Osberton* Grange 7s., and for the land in *Hardwick* 9s. 5d. To return—

The next paragraph in the instrument before us, contains the confirmation of a small grant at *Wickersley*, in Yorkshire. As a specimen of the puzzling variety in the orthography of early times, before the English language became settled,—may be adduced the name of this place, which in the course of half a dozen lines, is written *Wilgesie*—*Wicresie*—*Wichersleslia*, and *Wick-erleia*. Radulphus de Wilgesie, and Beatrice his wife, gave to the canons one bovate of land in *Wickersley*. And Robert, son of Richard, surnamed of this place, gave to the canons the Church of his lordship there, with all the appurtenances. It does not appear what led to this connection between the remote village of *Wickersley* and the Worksop house, nor at what period the grant and appropriation were made, but probably about 1231.\* Mr. Hunter observes,† that the first who took the surname of de *Wickersley*, was Richard Fitz-Turgis, who, in the time of King Stephen, was cofounder with de Busli of the Abbey of Roche: this person can hardly have been the father of the donor first above-mentioned, who was probably a later descendant. Under *Chartæ de Wykersley*, the original Priory Register of Worksop, Cap. I. f. 57. recorded that Roger,

\* This presumption rests on the following entry in the Notitia:—Fin. Ebor. 15 H. III. n. 118. pro advoc. eccl. de Wykresley.

† Hallamshire, p. 210.

the son of Richard de Wickersley, gave the Church of his Lordship there to the canons, which donation was confirmed by Matildis de Folevil, his wife. Next followed a ratification of the same grant, by Bardulph and Matilda his wife; and lastly, the concession and confirmation of William de Livet and Constantia his wife, daughter of the above Roger, of the advowson of the above Church. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to settle the affinity of the above names, or the dates of their respective donations. Roger, mentioned above, is probably the same person who died 24th May, 1471, and lies buried in Wickersley Church, where the stone laid over his remains still exists, having the arms of Wickersley—a fess between three cinquefoils, at its four corners.\* I have not met with any notice of the Convent exercising their right over this Church before the last year of Henry III., when, according to Dodsworth:—"The Prior of Worksop presents to the Church of Wickersley the 3d of the ides of April, 6th year of Bishop Gifford, 1271." Again, anno 1329; and in "the second year of the consecration of Alexander Neville, 1375."†

I give the following paragraph of the charter in the words of the original, being unacquainted with the localities in the terms of the specification, which appear to have been in the neighbourhood of Oxton. "Concessionem etiam, donationem & confirmationem quas Robertus de Somervilla fecit præfatis Canonicis de loco suo de *Gives*, & de tota terra sua, ab *Hortesikedale*, usque ad *Iverstalm*, & de duodecim acris terræ inter *Schastebecks* & *Iverstalm*; & de duodecim acris terræ ad *Rogemond*, & de quatuor acris terræ ad *Holbeck*; & de tota bosco suo de *Aykeland*; & de tota terra sua de *Waterfall*, usq. ad *Helmelowe*, cum comunia de *Oxtona* in omnibus salvis parcis suis cum pertinentiis, in puram & perpetuam eleemosinam."

The last item, in this long, and I am afraid tedious charter, is the confirmation to the canons of the Church of All Saints, at *Clown*, in Derbyshire. In the Escheat rolls, 8 Richard II. the jury found it no damage if the king granted Richard de Raucliffe, parson of *Clown*, William de Burgh, parson of *Babworth*, and Peter le Cooke, chaplain, licence to give to the prior and convent of Worksop, and their successors, five messuages, and the moiety of three others, with the appurtenances in East Retford for ever, to find a chaplain to pray for the good estate of the said Richard, William, and Peter, whilst they should live, and daily to celebrate for them all when they should be dead, in the Church of that Priory.‡ At the dissolution, the Priory had here rents of assize, 7s. 6d.; and lands valued at £3 11s.

King Edward the Second, in the ninth year of his reign, after inspeximus of the Priory grants, confirmed the donations and concessions recorded in the same. In the calendar of the Patent rolls, under "*Secunda Patent, &c. nono, Regis Edwardus Secundi*" occurs this

\* Hallamshire, p. 210.

† The living is a rectory, valued, in the king's books, at £8 0s. 2½d. per ann., according to *Ecton*, who says it paid to the priory vi s. viii d.

‡ Pat. 8 Rich. II. p. 2. m. 5. Escheat. Nottingham. 8 Rich. II. n. 54.

Recup. Derb. 29 Hen. VIII. rot. 338. pro ann. redd xl s. recuperat de persona de Clowne.

entry :—" Perampl', confirm' maner' terrar' ac lib'tatum pro Priore de Wirksoþ."\* Worksop is named among the monasteries, which the predecessor of this monarch, the politic Edward I, obliged to receive protection from him.†

I shall now notice a few miscellaneous matters and donations, either omitted in the proper place, or not included in preceding charters.

Galfredus Pigot de Conyngburth' et Alicia' uxor mea' quietum clamavimus priori et conventui de Wirksoþ, totum jus nostrum in uno messuagio et 14 acris terræ in Wyrksop, quæ quondam fuerunt Henrici de Luuetot. Test. d'nis Thoma de Furnivall, Thoma de Chaworth, Willelmo de Cressy et Gerardo de Hedon militibus.‡

By Dodsworth's transcripts, from the Register of Worksop, "*Sub titulo de Wodethorp*," it appears that the convent had some little property in the parish of Handsworth, near Sheffield. William, son of William de Crespnill, Knight, gave to the canons of Worksop 5s. annually, out of his lordship of Richmond; which grant was witnessed by Thomas Lord Furnival, &c.

Robert Escrop de Coleby, gave to the canons of Worksop, for the health of the soul of Robert de Blyth, his grandfather, three marks annually, arising from all the lands which the said Robert gave him in Gleadleys and Woodthorp, to maintain a canon for the celebration of divine service, in the Chapel of St. John the Evangelist. Witnessed as above.

Josceline, son of Robert Escrop de Coleby, &c. with Robert de Blida, late rector of the Church of Misterton, his father, and grandfather, confirmed the grant of the above-mentioned proceeds arising out of the said lands. Test. Domino Tho. de Furnivall, &c.

Matheus Filius Willelmi voluntate et concessione Emmæ de Menuill, uxoris mæe dedit terras ibidem, viz., in *Aylwinthorp*, datæ ecclesiæ de Radford.§

Thomas de Wulverthon, and Rametta his wife, gave to the canons of Radford, the Church of *Eton*, or *Idleton*, with all the appurtenances. Robert, his son, confirmed the gift. Robert, son of Herbert de Wolrington, released all his right in the advowson of this Church, to the canons of Worksop, by his deed dated at London 21st October, 1286: and, strange as it may appear, by another deed bearing the same date, he likewise settled it on the Archbishop of York. How the prelate got the better of the prior does not appear, but he very soon did so, and presently made it one of the prebends to Southwell, and so it continues.||

\* Cal. Rot. Pat. p. 80. M. 36.

† Stevens, vol. ii. p. 70.

‡ Dodsworth MSS. c. cxxvi. fol. 246. b. 4 246d.

|| Dickenson's *Southwell*. Tanner, in his *Mottis*, gives the following references to pleas on this subject:—*Plac. de Benes*, 15 Ed. I. M. Mich. rot. 13. pro capl. de Eton, Pat. 19 Ed. I. M. *Plac. in Cap. Ebon*, 2b Ed. I. quo Warr. rot. 30.

Hervey de Sutton, and his heir Robert, gave to the canons of *Radford*, the Church of *Sutton* on Trent, and the right and patronage thereof, and whatsoever other right they had therein.— And there was a fine levied at Nottingham, 20 Henry III. between Walter, prior of Worksop, and Richard de Sutton, of the said advowson, whereby it was declared to be the right of the said prior, as that which he had by the gift of Hervey de Sutton. This Church, King Edward the First, in the thirty-first year of his reign, being at *Strivelin*, 25 April, licensed to be appropriate to the monastery of Worksop.\* It was at this time valued at ten marks.

Alan de Mering, son of Harvei, by the grant of Harvei de Sutton his Lord, gave one place of land in the territory of Mering to the canons.†

Ralph de Vilers gave to Robert his brother, one bovat of land in *Calverton*, which Bernard held, reserving a pound of cummin, or three half-pence at Easter: this he gave to the priory of Worksop, and the gift was confirmed by his descendants.‡

William de Kawres, son of Robert de Kawres, for his soul's health, and the soul of Agnes his wife, by the consent of his heirs, gave to God and St. Mary and St. Cuthbert, and the brethren, and their servants, and their carriages, free passage in his ferry boat of *Marnham*, without custom or demand; which Robert, son of William de Kawir, (quasi *Chaworth*,) confirmed to the said canons, and which the prior of Worksop claimed in Eyre, 3 Edward III., and had accordingly. This *Marnham* was on the Trent, and this privilege of free-ferry was commodious when the canons wished to pass to the other side of the county, or into Lincolnshire, where the convent had some possessions. In the 10 Edward II., an inquisition, *ad quod damnum*, went to inquire whether a messuage at Lincoln might be given by "Joh'is de Baunford," to the priory of Worksop.§ It appears, also, from the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, (Henry VIII.,) that the prior had 40s. annual value at *Rushton*, in the diocese of Lincoln. This is the *Ryston* of "*Liber Taxatio Ecclesiastica P. Nicholai*," || IV., in which record, the above sum is assessed as a spirituality, "Pens' prioris de Wyrsope." The same record contains, also, the following entry:—"Prior de Wyrkesop h't in Decantibus. (Lincoln.) In temporals, "Lincoln,' 5. 15. 0.—Grymesby, 0. 2. 0.—Hoyland, 1. 0. 0." Under the survey of the Priory possessions in this work, occurs likewise this

\* *Eccat Nottingh.* 31 Ed. I. n. 102. de appropriatione eccl. de Sutton super Trent.

† *Thoroton*, vol. i. p. 370.

‡ *Dodsworth* gives the substance of five instruments, with the names of their respective witnesses, as connected with the donation and confirmation of this bovat.—*Dodsworth MSS.* cxxvi. f. 110. *Ex registro prioratus de Wirsoppe, alias vocat Radford, in Com. Nott. sub titulo Charta de Calverton.*

§ "Inquis. ad quod Damnum." Printed copy, p. 250.

|| This taxation was begun in the year 1286, when Pope Nicholas the Fourth granted the tenths to King Edward the First, for six years, towards defraying the expense of an expedition to the Holy Land; and that they might be taxed to their full value, an inquisition, by the king's precept, was begun in that year, and not finished, at least before 1291. The record of this taxation, is considered an important historical document, as all the taxes, as well to our kings as the popes, were regulated by it, until the celebrated survey made in the 26th year of Henry VIII.

entry "Ecclia' de Karleton in Lyndryk, p' t' porc'oem—13 6 8." It appears too, that "Prior de Wirkesop tenet unū bovat' terre in Karleton, in Lindrick, in pura eleemosina de foedo Robti Furnell."\*

I find, from the transcript made by Dodsworth from the Priory register, that the Convent had some property at Denaby, near Conisburgh, in Yorkshire, namely, six marks, out of the mill there, or should that fail, out of the manor of Denaby. This gift was made to the canons by John, the son of Matthew Briton, of Denaby, and afterwards confirmed by Roger, the son of John, with some enlargement. John le Vavasor, who became the owner here, as the nephew and heir of the above Roger, saw and confirmed the grant of his uncle above-mentioned.†

In the hundred rolls (temp. Edw. I.) "In Wapp de Stafford," the prior of Worksop, is said to have part of the "villa" of "Canteley." This Cantley is near Doncaster; and the Priory property here, was a meadow at Brampton, or Branton, in the above parish, of the gift of John de Evermeles, whose charter, executed 1259, and entitled "*Carta Johanae de Evermeles de Brampton*," is still extant, as follows:—

"Omnibus Christi fidelibus hoc scriptum visuris vel audituris, Johanna de Euermeles de Brampton, juxta Doncastre, salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra me in propria potestate et ligia viduitate mea invadiasse priori et conuentui de Wyrksop, totum pratum meum sub manerio meo de Brampton, quod habuerunt de me ad firmum cum omnibus pertinentiis suis. Ita quod si dictis priori et conuentui ad festum sancti Michaelis, anno domini, MCCL nono, unam marcam non soluero, totum predictum pratum cum pertinentiis suis, dictis priori et conuentui, absque contradictione et calumpnia mei vel heredum meorum, in perpetuum solutum, quietum, et integrum remanebit. Obligavi etiam me, quod non licebit in Johane dictum pratum, nec aliquam terram, nec molendinum meum, nec redditum alicui vendere dimittere nec invadiare, nec alicui aliquo modo alienare infra annum in suo cyrographo de dicto prato annotatum; quod si fecero, totum predictum pratum, sicut superius predictum, dictis priori, et conuentui omnino solutum et quietum remanebit in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus domino Waltero, rectore ecclesie de Canteley; Henrico de Beyrton, clerico;

\* Testa de Nevil, p. 1.

† Sub titulo de Hoton Pagnet, (near Brodsworth, in Yorkshire) et Denyngby. Johannes filius Mathei Britonis de Denyngby dedit canonicis de Wyrkesop 6 marcas argenti de Molendino suo, ac Manerio suo, de Denyngby (com. Ebor.) et molendinum ad solutionem dictarum 6 marcarum sufficere non possit. Test. dominis Thoma de Furnivall; Thoma de Bella Aqua; Radulphi de Normanvill; Ernulpho Montenev; Roberto patre ejus; Roberto de Wykersey militibus; Rogerus le Breton filius Johannis Breton de Denyngby, dat et confirmat canonicis de Wyrkesop, molendinum suum de Denyng-

by cum fundo et stagno et baijs et cum omnimoda secta omnium tenentium meorum tam liberorum quam nativorum in villa de Denyngby.

Noverint universi quod ego Johannes le Vavasor de Denyngby inspexi chartam Rogeri le Breton avunculi mei cujus heres ego sum, &c., de molendino de Denyngby, &c., ut supra. Confirmatio ejusdem test. dominis Rogero filio Thoma, Nicholao de Leycester, Henrico de Tineslowe et Ricardo Bernacle seneschallo, Thoma Scofield. dat apud Ebor. 22 E. I.—*Dods. MSS.* cxxvi. f. 146. b.

Johanne Besacra, [Bessecar,] Ricardo de Happelsthorp; Rogero de Dukton in Alkeley, [Awksley]; Radulfo de Canteley, et Aliis.\*

I find no mention of *Wiseton* in the charters, but Thoroton states that 'the Priory had lands there at the dissolution, rated at £5 3s. 0d. He likewise says, that the rectory, perhaps a moiety of it, was appropriated to the monastery of Worksop.†

From the preceding, and probably defective, enumeration of the various grants made to this establishment, by the founders and their families,‡ as well as by other well-disposed individuals, some conception may be formed of the riches of the religious, and the provision which the spirit of the times induced men to make for the maintenance of religion. Of the economy and discipline of the monastic institution, it would be out of place to speak largely here: many excellent publications on the subject being easily accessible, and most persons influenced by common curiosity on the matter, having generally an accurate knowledge of the conventual system.

The idea of entire seclusion from the world, and all secular engagements and emoluments, was probably not voluntary at first, but originated in the peculiar circumstances of the early Christian church, when the sword of persecution drove the confessors of the truth to seek such places as afforded an asylum and sanctuary from their enemies, no less than a covert for the exercise of their mutual devotions.

Nor is the history of the various orders, into which the system of monachism has branched, involved in much less uncertainty. Of the origin of Canons we have only varied and confused accounts: some refer the institution of the canonical life to Urban the first, who was bishop of Rome, about A.D. 230; others to St. Augustine, who, having gathered a society of godly men, he lived with them in religious seclusion; and, when he was consecrated bishop, built a monastery for clerks and priests within his palace, with whom he might live in common. Canons were distinguished into *secular* and *regular*: the former being frequently such as having been deacons or parish clerks, and having assisted in the priestly ministrations, were moved to enter themselves into the priesthood, and take upon themselves the cure of souls, obtaining such benefices as they could; the latter were such as led a monastic life, and adhered to the Augustinian rule, which consisted principally in three particulars—that "they should have nothing of their own; to be chaste; and to keep their cloisters." They slept upon mattresses, with woollen blankets, gave themselves to fasting, silence, study, and preaching. They lived in common, and did not

\* Dodsworth MSS. vol. viii. p. 76. b.

† Thoroton, vol. ii. p. 75.

‡ Persons in general who contributed to the support of the establishment, were called *Founders*: and the following

notice is transcribed from an old heraldic account-book in the British Museum:—"The founder of the abbey of Worsop, ys the Lord Furnival, and the heyre to the Lord Furnival ys the Right Honorable Lord George, Erle of Shrewsbury."—*Harl. MSS.* No. 1499. fol. xliij.

admit any person to the habit of the order,\* until he was at least seventeen years old. Their first and principal establishment in this country was at Canterbury; and at Rome, in the monastery of St. John de Lateran, in the cloisters of which used to hang the rules of the order in Latin verse,† enforcing, what they no doubt exemplified in ancient times, learning, regularity, and holiness of life.

The conventual superior was styled the Prior, not as of less dignity than an abbot, for abbots and priors, as heads of houses, were usually considered (except in cathedrals, where there are no abbots, on account of the bishop) as synonymous terms. It has been supposed that the superior should only bear the title of prior, unless the king granted his charter of liberties and protections, then the superior should have the style of abbot. The Worksop house, although distinguished by royal immunities, is excepted from the application of this rule, as the Augustine order, it has been said, had no abbot till the 15th century, during the papacy of Eugene IV.‡

The reader will have observed, in connection with the recital of Conventual property, that according to the notion and phraseology of the times, the grants were generally made for the health of the souls of the donors, and commonly including their ancestors and successors. Consequently masses for the dead, as well as the living, constituted no small part of the monastic service, and in many instances priests were appointed to celebrate perpetually for individuals: but besides such clerks as had chantries in the nature of benefices, there were others who were mere itinerants, wandering about the kingdom, and seeking employment by singing mass for the souls of the founders. Fuller says,§ that the ordinary price for a mass sung by one of these clerks, was fourpence; but that if they dealt in the gross, it was forty marks for two thousand.

Next to the celebration of religious services: the monks applied themselves to pursuits of literature; and to their industry and opportunities in this respect, Europe and the world stand immensely indebted. It may indeed be contended, that learning has suffered irreparably from the chilling influence of claustral impropriation, not to mention the number of invaluable manuscripts which the monks have either erased, or over-written with their impertinent legends; but even this allegation must be qualified, by the absence of all proof, that the art of printing would have been sooner invented, or that the materials of literature would have been respected, had they been confided to a custody less inviolate than the sacredness of a monastery.

Pope Benedict the Twelfth, expressly enjoined reading, writing, correcting, illuminating,

\* The regular habit was a long black cassock, with a white rochet over it, and over that a black cloak and hood. The monks were always shaved, but these canons were beards, and caps on their heads. There is a draught of an Austin canon in Dugdale's *Warwickshire*; and of a canoness in *Stevens*, vol. ii. p. 68. The engraving in this work is copied from the *Monasticon*, and will convey a distinct idea of the dress of the order.

† *Weever's Funeral Monuments*, p. 129.

‡ *Fosbrooke's British Monachism*, vol. I. p. 73, 8vo. edit.

§ *Worthies in Essex*, p. 330.





or binding books, as an avocation of monks; which had, however, been practised by them long before his time.—Nor did these scribes merely confine themselves to the inscription of the subject in hand. Before the time of Alfred, elaborately flourished initial letters, as well as ornamental sketches began to be in vogue. The annexed engraving represents one of these ancient penmen in the exercise of his vocation, and is moreover itself a curious specimen of the art alluded to. It is a fac-simile of a drawing in a MS. life of Paul the Hermit,\* executed sometime during the eighth century, and originally belonging to the monastery of St. Augustine, at Canterbury. In almost every monastery there were writing rooms, called *Scriptorium*, or *domus antiquarium*,† in which some of the members were constantly engaged in literary labours.—To neatness of execution and splendour of decoration, they often paid no little attention: many of the Anglo-Saxon chalcographers especially, are known to have

\* In Bibliotheca Coll. Corp. Christi Cantab. G. 2.

† *Archæologia*, v. i. Introd. III.

possessed eminent skill in the execution of their books; and it is affirmed, that the character which they used, had the honour to give rise to the modern small beautiful Roman letter.\*

These writers were called *antiquarii*, "and were," says Mr. Astle,† "industrious men, continually employed in making new copies of old books, either for the use of the monastery, or for their own emolument." And it is chiefly to the sedulous industry of these recluses, that we owe the preservation of so many of the antient fathers, the classics, and the compilations of the early history of our own country: indeed, the monks were the registraries of public events, of the age and succession of the king, and births of the royal family, as well as the legends, traditions, and foundation-histories of their respective houses.

With so many collocations of subject, circumstance, and place, as must have existed under the conventual dispensation, it is not surprising that poetry should have engaged the attention of the monks; and, accordingly, there are still extant a considerable number of their metrical compositions, both in Latin, and in the vulgar English of the period. And, although from the study of music, in which they frequently engaged, as well as from the daily singing in their choir service, it might be supposed, that their attention would have been turned to lyrical compositions, yet, from the peculiar provisions of the church, this seems not to have been the case. As connected with this subject, it may be added, that, so early as the time of Charlemagne, that species of Latin poetry, called Leonine verse, (from Leo, the name of the inventor, himself a monk,) was the admiration and delight of men of letters; and several compositions in this, as well as the more legitimate modes of Latin verse, are extant. Of the latter description, the satirical poem, by Nigel Wireker, a monk of Canterbury, entitled *speculum stultor*, and reflecting severely on the monastical improprieties of the middle ages, is a striking specimen.

In consequence, however, of an hereditary attachment to the blood and family of their founders, the poets of the cloister have not unfrequently opened a vein of poetry, of all others the most unpromising—the Rhyming Pedigree. It was the luck of the Worksop house, to include amongst its members, a genius for this species of composition, in the person of a canon, named Pigot,‡ who, in the reign of Edward IV., compiled a metrical chronicle of the benefactors to the foundation. At the dissolution, the chartularies and other documents fell into different hands, and were preserved, or destroyed from various motives: the poem in question was an ancient parchment manuscript, once in the possession of the Talbots of Grafton, where it was

\* Fosbrook's Brit. Mon. v. ii. p. 178. In a rhyming pedigree of the Staunton family, one of the females is celebrated, because, among other virtues,

"Both Boke and Needle she can use,  
And Romaine write full well."

† Astle's Writing, p. 193.

‡ Of the person or family of this chronicler, we have no account. A clerk, of his name, Mr. Hunter observes, was presented to the rectory of Handsworth in 1316; but this could not be our author himself, though it might be one of his family. Pigot, indeed, is an old name in this county, as at Radcliffe and Thrumpton.

seen and copied by Dugdale, when compiling the Monasticon ; in which work it is given entire. Although rather long, and, from the nature of the subject, very dull ; yet as connected with this place, and as a literary curiosity, its local claims fairly entitle it to a place in these pages.

STEMMA FUNDATORUM PRIORATUS DE WYRKESOPE.

Which had that affiaunce and inspiration  
The monastery of *Worsoppe* first for to found  
Mortest therto goods thereupon  
Woodes, medues and moundes : to say a great ground,  
Therefore in speciall, certs we are bound  
To pray for his soule, and his successours  
As we nightly do, and dayly at all houres.

This was founded in King *Herrye* dayes  
The first, as we rede after the conquest  
Of *William* conqueror, as the Cronicles says  
Third sonne, which England mightely possest  
Third day of the moneth of *Mars* as is cest,  
The third yere rennyng of *Herry* aforessyd  
As in diuerse Monuments tyl us is conveyd.

The seventh yere and *xxx.* of *William* Conquerour  
That Conquest this Realme the yere of our Lord  
A thousand sixtie and six, was that shoure  
Against *Harrold* King, the Cronicles accord,  
And so sone counted it is to record  
The yeres of our, that now present be,  
How many they are, sene he had the gree.

*Anno Milleno sexageno quoq ; seno.*  
*Anglorum Metæ crimen sensere Cometa,*  
*Dux Normannorum transit mare, vicit Haraldum.*

Which *Sr. William*\* dicest and was tumulate  
In the said Church on the north side,  
On the nederest gree, for his hye estate,  
Tendyng to the hye Awter, and there doth abyde :  
And he gat *Sr. Richard* his sonne in good tyde  
Which beryed was beneath him under a white stone  
The left side *Thomas Nevil*, and thereon gone.

\* *Levetot.*

And *Sr. Richard* gate *William Lovetoft* also  
 Beryed next the neder gree on the said payment ;  
*Sr. William* gate good *Molde Lovetoft* called tho  
 Last of that tayle as aunchaunt hath ment :  
 Then by King *Richard* Conqueror was sent  
 First *Furnivall Gerard*, and he her marryed  
 That came out of *Normandie* streight as we rode.

*Apud Ebrard in Neustriâ, Normandia vocata est,  
 tumultus in suo Domini, quod constat Fornevall,  
 per rectum successionem ; si patria cum Anglia  
 Existeret pacificata.*

Which *Gerard* gate *Thomas* ; and *Gerard* eke  
 Good *Sr. William* cleped also in dede ;  
 Which *Thomas* to the holy lande went for to seeke  
 The sepulture of *Christe*, and thereto agreed  
 With *Gerard* his brother, and there *Thomas* dyed  
 Slayne of the *Sarazens* for *Christes* love  
 Therefore we trist *Christ* hath reward him above.

Then dicest *Gerard* the first *Fournyvall*  
 And beryed was in *Normandy*, his own inheritance ;  
 Which this place indued with *Lordships* royall ;  
 And good *Molde* them confirmed with good affiance ;  
 Gave us more to withouten distaunce  
 For his saule and hers as *Monuments* declare  
 Under sure seals where so that they are.

To report the good deedes, that they did to us  
 Right long time and space they wold have, I write  
 Bot in special : reward them our Lord *Jesus*  
 Progenitours and successours, and in *Heaven* them quyte.  
 And of their successours further to indite  
 How they do succeed by noble yssue  
 More under I will say in this *Pedigree*.

Good *Molde* was beryed most principall  
 Above *Sr. Thomas Nevill* afore the high autere  
 For a good doer most worthy of all  
 That indued this place ; and her husband in fore  
 To reherse what she did, dyvers things sere  
 As expressed is afore, it wolde take long space,  
 Bot in *Heaven* therefore we trust is there place.

When *Sr. Thomas* was slayne for Christes sake  
 His broder came home *Gerard* agayne,  
 And that *Molde* ther Moder greuously gan take  
 That his bones emong hathen shuld be lane,  
 And made him retorne without more disdayne  
 Againe to the holy land, & his bones home brought  
 As it was Goddes will, that him dere bought.

Then tumulate here in *Nottinghamshire*  
 At *Wyrksoppe* the north side of this Mynster  
 With his helme on his hede will enquere  
 With precious stones that were sometyme set sere,  
 And a noble Charbuncle on him doth he bere  
 On his hede to see they may who so will  
 Of my writing witness for to fulfill.

*Sr. Gerard* on the south side under a Merbil stone  
 Next *St. Peters* Chappell is beried also,  
 And *Sr. William* ther brother both flesh and bone  
 In our Lady Chappell was beried even tho,  
 In the midst of the Chappell, good *Molde* a little fro  
 Wyf to first *S. John Fournivall* that was ;  
 Which foresaid *Sr. Will.* was greatly endued with grace :

For five Candells perpetuall in that Chapell  
 He ordeyned to brynne afore our Lady ;  
 And mych more he ordeyned as we herd tell  
 As his auncestrie afore had done worthely  
 And here lyeth tumulate full worshipfull  
 All in freestone, and on him is write  
 These verses here that thus are indite.

*Me memorans palle, similis currisq ; calle*  
*De Fournivalle pro Willielmo rogo palle ;*

Then *Thomas* gat *Thomas* which beryed was  
 At the base foot-Fryers in the town of *Doncaster* ;  
 And *Thomas* got *Gerard*, this is the case  
 Beryed at *Wyrksoppe*, in this place here  
 In seynt *Mary* Chappell which doth nocht appere  
 Under the stall, nothing but the hede  
 Of this Through-stone is sene length and brede.

Then Gerard gate *Thomas* and *William* his broder  
 Which *Thomas* sterne and right hasty man,  
 The hasty *Fournivall*, but he was good founder  
 To the place of *Wyrksoppe* in his time than ;  
 Which had none yssue from him that ran  
 But of his broder *Sr. William* foresaid  
 And from him dame *Jone* certa was conveyd.

Which foresaid *Thomas* on the north side is layde  
 In a tumbe of *Alabaster* above the hye Quere,  
 And *William* of the south side enens him is seid,  
 Here these two breder are beried in fere.  
 This *Thomas Nevill* first gan appere  
 Brother that was to Erle *Westmaryland*  
 By name *Johanne*, Lord *Fournivall* we understand ;

And he maryed dame *Johane*, daughter to *Sr William* ;  
 And they had a doghter, dame *Molde* that hight  
 With which doghter maryed the most noble of fame  
*Sr. John Talbot*, warryour that noble Knight,  
 Here alterats the name, as we have in sight  
 Of *Fournivalls* to *Talbots*, knyt both in one,  
*Lovetots* and *Fournivalls* to the *Talbots* thus gone,

Dame *Johane* is beryed aboven the hye Quere  
 Next *Thomas Nevill*, that was her husband,  
 In *Alabaster* an ymage *Sr. Thomas* right nere  
 As he is tumulate on his right hand ;  
 And by her daughter *Molde* we understand  
 Went owt the *Fournivalls*, as by their name  
 As *Lovetofts* by dame *Molde* afore did the same,

And *Sr. Thomas Nevill* Treasurer of *England*  
 Aboven the Quere is tumulate, his tumbe is to see  
 In the Middel for most royall there it doth stand :  
 And his doghter *Molde* of right hye degree.  
 In saynt *Mary Chappell* tumulate lyeth shee  
 Afore our blessed Lady, next the Stall side  
 There may she be seene, she is not to hyde.

Whom *Sr. John* the noble *Talbot* maryed  
 And had by her thre sonnes by natural yssue ;

First *Thomas* which dicest right yonge in dede,  
 And then *John Talbote*, who so it knewe  
 And *Sr. Christofer*, no mo by that Pedegru:  
 Which *Sr. John Talbote*, first *Sr. John Fournivall*,  
 Was most worthie warriour we reade of all :

For by his knighthode, and by his chivalrye  
 A Knight of the Garter first he was made ;  
 And of King *Henry* sixt, Erle *Scrovesberye*  
 To which *Sr. John* his sonne succession hade  
 And his noble successours now thereto sade  
 God give them good speede in their progresse  
 And Heaven at their end both more and lesse.

The live to report of this foreseid Lorde  
 How manly he was and full chivalrose,  
 What deedes that he did, I cannot by worde  
 Make rehersall by meter ne prose :  
 How manly, how true, and how famose  
 In *Ireland*, *France*, *Normandy*, *Gyon*, and *Gascone*  
 His pere so lang renyng I rede of none.

When he was no more bot xvi yere of age  
 By *Sr. Thomas Nevill* Lord *Fournivall*  
 He was sent to *Ireland*, and there right sage  
 He quyt him full manfully in that land over all.  
 Both Castles and Townes he got there royall.  
 Lord *Fournivall* was by the said *Nevills* daughter  
 And after Lord *Talbot* by his Progenitor.

Which while he reigned was most knight  
 That was in this Realme here many yere  
 Most dughty of hand, and feresest in fight  
 Most drede of all others with Frenchmen of werre :  
 In *Ireland*, *France*, *Gyon* ; whose saule God absolve  
 And bring to that blyss, that will not dissolve.\*

For speciall remembrance moreover also  
 His sonne *Sr. John Talbot* have we in mynde  
 To whom dame *Elizabeth* was maryed tho  
 The Erle daughter said of *Ormunde* we finde :

\* A line is omitted in this stanza, either by the poet or his transcriber]

Which *John Erle* was of *Shrovesbery* we finde  
 And true succession of his Father afore  
 The second Erle said of *Shrovesbery* that wore.

And they had faire yssue from them procedynge  
 Sr. John, James, and Gilbert, and Christopher saide  
 With doghters royall they furth gan bring  
 And thus theire succession to us is conveyde:  
 Which *Sr. John*, Erle second is tumulate and layde  
 In our Lady Quere, at *Northampton* slayne  
 The tenth day of *July*, it is not to lane.

[*Hii versus super Tumbam suam.\**]

By his moder his son is at the ix<sup>th</sup> degree  
 From *Gilbert Beket* fader that was  
 To seynt *Thomas* of *Canterbury*, by the *Ormundes* say we  
 The more as we trust shall fortune his grace:  
 With Duke of *Buckingham* doghter which maryed was  
 Third *Sr John Talbot*, and Erle *Shrovesbery*†  
 Which gat *George Talbot*, no farther can I.

This process one *Pigote* brevely thus saith  
 If any can say more it is corrigible  
 To their better avise I me bequaith  
 To make it in matter more intelligible.  
 That none to my knowledge should be forgotten  
 But remembrance lineal shuld be forshotten.

These sauls, rehersed in general afore,  
 Have in remembrance what man so thow be;  
 Have piety, and pray for theim evermore.  
 Say *Pater Noster*, with this salutation *Ave*:  
 And if thou a Clerk be, for there hye degree,  
 Say *De profundis* withouten disdeyne,  
 For them and all christen, that suffres pane.

\* He here gives the inscriptions from the tomb of the second Earl of Shrewsbury, which are afterwards transcribed.

† This John Talbot was born on the eve of the festival of *St. Lucy*, 1448; and, if we may believe the testimony of a note, appended to the Chronicle, his birth was not unaccompanied

by a prodigy:—" *Iste Dominus Johannes Talbot, Comes Salopie tertius, natus fuit in vigiliis S. Lucie Virginis, & Martyris, anno Domini Millesimo quadrigentesimo quadragesimo octavo. In hora ejus ortus Nativitatisq; scil. quartâ hora post median noctem, quidam simplex Canonicus audivit vocem, per aures suas procedentem & dicentem, Gloria in excelsis Deo & Angelis.*"



We have noticed the foundation of this religious house by the ancestors of one of the noblest families in the kingdom; we have detailed the specifications of that property out of which its munificent revenues were chiefly drawn; it now remains that we record the history of its dissolution, in common with the other monasteries in this kingdom. In doing this, it is very difficult for the historian to forbear taking up the pen of the moralist for a moment; nor is it less difficult, in any reflections which we may make on that important event, which swept away at one stroke, a mass of ecclesiastical power which had been accumulating for ten centuries, to avoid exaggeration of comment on the vices of the monks, or the virtues of the monarch who ejected them; for, after all, the former might have somewhat less of evil attaching to them as a body; as the latter had assuredly not more of personal good qualities, as a man, than is generally supposed. That the suppression of these houses of religion, as they were called, was an event fraught with incalculable advantage to the country in every point of view, there can be no doubt. Their great and growing revenues not only tended to invest the richest portions of the kingdom in *mortmain*, but to exempt from imposition and labour, the best portion of the community; the consequence was, the religious became avaricious, insolent, and vicious. With the secular, or parochial clergy, they lived in perpetual hostility, and these clerks they generally retained on their own terms to do the duties of those cures, of which themselves received the benefit: for they had an almost unbounded influence from the numerous advowsons in their hands, or appropriations of churches to the monasteries. Indeed, Bishop Kennet says,\* that at one time about one half of the parish churches in England, were in the hands or power of cathedral churches or monasteries. These evils to society were only exceeded by the corruption within doors, for, notwithstanding the apparently mortifying peculiarities of the monastic institution, were designed to militate against irregularity of life, yet the licentiousness of the devotees has passed into a proverb.

One thing we cannot but observe; however little communities may regard it, and historians, in general, be disposed to overlook the fact,—that it is the prerogative of God to bring good out of evil, by causing the wicked to chastise one another, and thus making even the wrath of man to praise Him. It is only when we acknowledge this principle, that we can account for the fact, that one of the most imperious and uxorious monarchs that ever filled the throne of Britain, became the instrument of effecting the most glorious moral reformation ever witnessed. Nor let it be imagined, even by those least competent to judge upon this subject, that it was left for the sixteenth century, to witness first, and first incur the opprobrium of seeking to diminish, the exorbitant rapacity of the monks, however equally unjustifiable may have been the cupidity of those who sighed for their possessions. With the reign of Richard II. ended the grand era of monastic endowments; and his successor Henry IV. was only prevented by the powerful appeal of the Archbishop of Canterbury, from laying his hands upon the temporalities of the clergy. He promised not only to forgo his intentions, but declared that he would leave the church better than he found it: thus, says Sir H. Spelman, “that hideous cloud of confusion, which hung over the head of

\* Case of Appropriations, pp. 18, 19.

the clergy, vapoured suddenly at this time into nothing. Yet did it lay the train that Henry V. did make a sore eruption, and in Henry VIII.'s time blew up the monasteries.”\*

“ King Henry the Eighth,” says Weever, “ upon occasion of delay made by Pope *Clement* the Seventh, in the controversy betwixt him and Queen Katharine, and through displeasure of such reports as he heard had been made of him to the court of Rome : or else pricked forward by some of his counsellors, to follow the example of the Germans, caused proclamation to be made on the eighteenth day of September, Anno, reg. 22, forbidding all his subjects to purchase, or attempt to purchase, any manner of thing from the court of Rome, containing matter prejudicial to the high authority, jurisdiction, and prerogative royal of this realm ; or other hindrance and impeachment of the king's majesties noble and virtuous intended purposes. Upon pain of incurring his highness's indignation and imprisonment ; and further, punishment of their bodies for their so doing, at his Grace's displeasure, to the dreadful example of all others.”†

This hostile proclamation was followed by a succession of Parliamentary enactments, abrogating all acknowledgment of the authority of the see of Rome, and eventually forbidding, under severe penalties, the continuance of the appellation of *Pope* to the head of the Catholic Church, but ordering that he should only have, in this country, the style of *Bishop of Rome*, leaving to the king the power of correcting all ecclesiastical abuses by his own authority. In a following parliament, they granted to Henry and his heirs, the first fruits and tenths of all spiritual dignities and promotions, and presently the king's title of *Defender of the Faith*, and supreme head of the church of England and Ireland, was fully ratified, and declared to be annexed for ever to the imperial crown. This, as might be expected, produced open war in the country ; the priests, both secular and regular, in their pulpits, preaching the jurisdiction of the pope, while the nobility and others, for various reasons, set themselves to forward the reformation. Various mandatory letters of the king were issued, containing orders and instructions to the executive, how they should act under these circumstances. These letters, and the history of the times, exhibit alike the imperious temper of Henry, the persistency of the clergy, and the sad declension of all parties, from the primitive excellence of vital Christianity.

That the destruction of the monasteries should follow, was a matter of course, in the counsels and the determination of the king ; the success of an experiment of suppression, on a small scale, was indeed before him, in the case of Henry V. and the alien priories ; but how to effect this perilous and unprecedented achievement, required no less the prudence and vigilance, than the decision of the government. To give the necessary colour to a pretext for this summary measure, visitors were appointed to go to the different religious houses in the kingdom, and make inquiries on the spot, and among the brethren, concerning the abuses of the convent. The instructions given to these visitors were of such a nature, that while, from the whole of the items

\* Spelman's Hist. Sacrilege, p. 169.

† Dis. Fun. Mon. p. 79.

of inquiry, we may infer the sad declension of religious discipline, we perceive with no less clearness, with what certainty the delinquents would be entangled in the meshes of such a net. From the Book of the Visitation of Abbies, preserved in the Ashmolean Collection at Oxford, as well as from various documents in the British Museum, the zeal with which these visitors discharged their task, is abundantly manifest.\*

The consequence of this visitation was an act, 27 Henry VIII., by which "all and singular such monasteries, priories, and other religious houses of monks, canons, and nuns, of what kinds of diversities of habits, rules, or order soever they be called or named, which have not in lands, tenements, rents, tythes, portions, or other hereditaments above the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds," were dissolved. There is reason to believe, that in these corrupt times of clerical manners, that the licentiousness of the regulars was not universal; indeed, in the preamble to the above statute is the following declaration, that, "In the greater monasteries, thanks be to God, religion is right well observed and kept up."

Brief, however, was the respite which this commendation produced to the larger monasteries, the destruction of which were, no doubt, even now decreed in the royal purpose. Worksop priory, notwithstanding its valuation above the minimum rate of salvation, seems to have been adjudged one of the lesser houses, and therefore fell with the first storm, for, in the year after passing the above act, the king's commission, of four persons, arrived at Worksop, and on exhibiting their warrant received the full and peaceable surrender of that house, from the prior and fifteen brethren, on the 15th November, 1539.† At this period, its annual value, according to Speed, was £302 6s. 10d.; Dugdale, £289 15s.

\* There is in the Cotton Library, a letter from Richard Layton to Cromwell, praying that Dr. Lee and himself may be commissioners for visiting the monasteries in the north of England. This is followed by another, desiring that he may be appointed visitor in York diocese, and Blitheman, to be his registrar; and that Dr. Lee may, at the same time, visit other places. This is the man whose furious conduct, in surrounding Lavenden abbey, and catching the abbot's concubine, is recorded by himself, in a letter preserved in the British Museum.

† The original letter, from the commissioners to the secretary, detailing the facts of their proceedings in the dissolution of this and some other houses, is in the British Museum. The following is a transcript:—

"Owre mooste singlere good lorde, owre bowden dewties lowlie premysede, pleas yt youre honorable lordeshippe to be advertisede, we have laytlye receyved youre letters, conteynynge the king's maiesties pleasure anempce the ordere of leed belles apperteynyng to such howses off religion con-

teanyde in the king's graces letters comissional to us addressed, whereof we have allredye comytte the salve custodie to substantial honeste persons hable too answer therefoore, and have not solde, ne intended to sell, anye percell thereof. We have qwyetlye takine the surrenders and dissolvdyd the monasteries off Wyeresoppe, Monckebreary, Sancte Androos, at Yorke, Bylande, Ryvaille, Kyrkeham, and Ellerton, the freers at Tykhill, Doncastere, Pontefracte, and the cite of Yorke, where we perceyved no murmure ore gruge in anye behalf, but were thankefullye receyvede, as we shall within vi dayes more playnlie certefye yor lordeshippe. And where it haith pleasyd youre lordeshippe too writte fore resyvinge of leed and belles at Bolton, in *Chivot*, there is as yet noo suche commissioun cumyng to owre handes, as *Thus* knowethe whoo preserve yor lordeshippe in helthe and honour. At Yorke, the xvthe daye of Decembre.—Your lordeshippe's humble bounden orators,

"GEORGE LAWSON,  
"RYCHERD BELASSEZ,  
"WILLM. BLITHMAN,  
"JAMES ROKEBY."

From the date of its first erection, according to the common account, until the period of its dissolution, the priory will be found to have existed 436 years.

#### A CATALOGUE OF THE PRIORS OF WYRSOP.\*

Temp. Confirm. Elect.	Priores loci.	Vacationes.
About 1180.	William.	
Do. 1196.	Stephen.	
Do. 1200.	Henry.	
Do. 1233.	Walter de Leirton.	
Do. 1253.	Robert de Pikeborn.	
Do. 1260.	John.	
Do. 1288.	Alan de London.	Resigned, 1300.
2 Non. November, 1303.	Fr. Joh. de Tikehill Can'cus de Wyrksop.	Per amovat.
11 Kal. April, 1313.	Fr. Robt. de Carleton Can'cus, <i>Ibid.</i>	
1396.	F. Joh'es.	
22 April, 1404.	Fr. Rog. de Upton Can'cus.	Per mort.
	Fr. Joh. de Laghton Can'cus, cui bulla pro defectu nataliu.	
Occurs — 1457.	Fr. Carolus Flemyng.	Per resig.
11 October, 1463.	Fr. Will. Acworth prior de Felley.	
13 July, 1518.	Fr. Robt. Warde.	Per mort.
	Fr. Tho. Gateford prior de Felley.	
14 February, 1522.	Fr. Nic. Storth Can'cus de Wyrksop.	Living, 1528.

To the above list must be added, Thomas Stokkes, the last prior, who, on the dispersion of his convent, had a pension of £50 per annum assigned him, which he enjoyed in 1553, at which period there remained in charge, the following pensions, together with £4 in fees, and £15 in annuities, viz. :—

George Oxley—William Nutte—Richard Asheby—each £6 per annum.

L. Stachborn—Thos. Richardson—Geo. Barnsley—

Alexander Brooke—Edmond Robinson—Thomas Bedall—each £5, £6, £8 per annum.

James Windebank—Richard Armand—each £4 per annum.

Chris. Naslaine—William White—each £2 per annum.

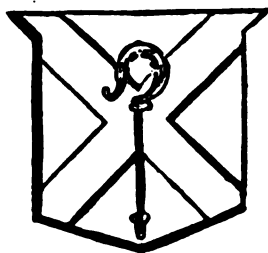
Mr. Hunter, in his Hallamshire, has given a catalogue of the vicars of Sheffield, upon which he remarks, " We may remark a quick succession in the vicarage, in the times before the Refor-

\* Of this catalogue, the first six names, with the dates, are from Brown Willis; the remainder from Torre's MS. Collections, in the custody of the dean and chapter of York.

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Worksop, and all messuages and houses, and several closes and fields, and four acres of arable land in Manton, in the parish of Worksop, &c. to hold to him and his heirs of the king, *in capite*, by the service of the tenth part of a knight's fee, and also by the royal service of finding the king a right hand glove at his coronation; and to support his right arm that day, as long as he should hold the sceptre in his hand, paying yearly £23 8s. 0½d. rent. This honour appears anciently to have been annexed to another manor, and enjoyed by the Earl's ancestors:—"The Barons Furnival held Ferneham, [Farnham Royal,] in the county of Bucks, by the service of finding their sovereign lord the king, upon the day of his coronation, a glove for his right hand, and to support his right arm, the same day, while he held the verge or sceptre in his hands."\* At the coronation of James II. this service was claimed and allowed. And at the coronation of his present Majesty, the same service was performed by deputy for His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, as lord of the manor of Worksop.

\* Blount's *Fragments*.





THE ABBEY GATEHOUSE, WITH THE OLD PARSONAGE.

## CHAPTER IV.

### Priory Remains—Present State of the Church—The Vicarage— The Terrier.

**W**E are now brought, by the progress of our history, to notice what has justly been denominated the glory of modern Worksop—its Abbey Church; and this, without claiming for it the extravagant praise of a modern writer, as “striking the beholder with an impression equal to Westminster Abbey,” may, nevertheless, be considered as an object no less of interest than of admiration. Previously, however, to entering into the more minute details connected with the fabric, it may not be improper to devote some attention to the present state of the conventual remains with which it is connected.

To a visitor in the town, the most direct, as well as the most interesting approach to the church, is by Potter Street; at the bottom of which, and opposite the Abbey gateway, stands the shaft of the old cross, elevated on a conical series of steps, and probably occupying the site of

one of the "*cruces quas Willielmus de Lovetot pater meus, & Ricardus de' Luvetot avus meus propriis manibus crexerunt.*"\* On this, as well as on some other accounts, this fragment is not without its interest to the man of reflection; it was most probably hereabouts that the fair and market, granted to one of the De Furnivals, was anciently held, being convenient for the monks, who, on several accounts, were very fond of fairs. It was, moreover, usually considered, that the presence of so sacred a symbol in such places, might tend to enforce fairness and equity among buyers and sellers, and hence we frequently find them at this day in our market-places, where they were placed previous to the Reformation. The boundaries of estates were likewise indicated by crosses; and, in the Chronicles of Welbeck Abbey, one of these is expressly mentioned, at Worksop, as a land-mark, antecedently to the above period. During the reign of Elizabeth, the iconoclasts, not confining their rage to images, altars, and shrines, exerted themselves against crosses, which were generally demolished, except the steps, and perhaps a portion of the shaft, which, whether not broken down, or afterwards re-erected, became the more harmless supporter of a sun-dial. Here, likewise, proclamations, concerning the town or the kingdom, used to be made; and from these steps, during the protectorate, banns of marriage were proclaimed by the common crier. That the town-cross of Worksop has been so distinguished, we have express evidence.

The next objects, to which the eye of curiosity most naturally turns, are the venerable fragments of the once magnificent priory—venerable even in their decay; and I may be permitted here to observe, that the impression made upon my feelings and imagination, by the first view of these ruins, can never be forgotten. It was rather late, on a beautiful evening in autumn, when all was still and silent around, and the harvest moon "shed her silvery light o'er tower and tree," that I, and a beloved friend, found ourselves before the ancient gateway of the ruined abbey. Bright as the moon shone, we were on the shadowy side of the building; and, therefore, the objects in front assumed a deeper interest, from the dubious twilight in which we beheld them; while, in consonance with the dingy elevation of the roof, an immense wreath of ivy, growing from the gable to the ground, exhibited the appropriate badge of antiquity. A tranquil, but gloomy solemnity, suited to the dignity of its past history, and its fallen grandeur, seemed to rest upon this portion of the pile, affording a fine contrast to the naked light which illuminated the elegant fragment of arches below: our feelings were in unison with the scene before us, and we indulged in such reflections as our minds naturally suggested, on the striking peculiarities and departed importance of the monastic institution in this country.

" I do love these ancient ruins,  
We never tread upon them but we set  
Our foot upon some reverend history:  
And, questionless, here, in the open court,  
Which now lies naked to the injuries  
Of stormy weather, some men lie interred,

\* Ex Carta Matildis de Lovetot.



Loved the church so well, and gave largely to't;  
 They thought it should have canopied their bones  
 Till Doomsday: but all things have their end.  
 Churches, and cities, (which have diseases like men,)  
 Must have like death that we have."

Those moments of pleasing companionship, as connected with my first contemplation of this relic, are, it is true, gone for ever; but still the recollection remains: Vale! horam felicem—

Καί, ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν, ἐπιτέλλῃ τῆς εὐδαιμονίας σοὶ ἔστω, φιλτατὴ μοῦ.

Independent of all sentimental associations, this gatehouse is an interesting specimen, not only of the building with which it stood connected, but of the masonry of past times, and conventional architecture in general. The south, or principal front, which is about nineteen yards in extreme breadth, comprising three divisions, and two divisions in height; with a well proportioned pediment over the centre, which is the widest space. For the greater strength of the walls, there are four buttresses, rising nearly to the cornice under the roof; the inner ones have very beautifully enriched niches, with brackets, but no figures. In the centre, is the great arch of entrance, about twelve feet wide, supported by stout clustered columns, resting on a plinth and bases. Over it, in the second division, is a very handsome window, the arch of which is the segment of a circle; and the weather cornice reaches nearly to the springing of the tracery, which is very ornamental. Six mullions divide the space into twenty-four compartments, leaded and glazed. On each side of this window is an ornamental niche, with figures as large as life, both in standing positions. That on the west side, exhibiting a knight armed, in full portraiture, bearing a shield, charged with a lion rampant, for *Talbot*: the other, on the east side, a similar figure, his shield bearing a bend between six martlets, for *Furnival*. These figures, although much less perfect than they were when Dodsworth copied the cognizances just mentioned, are still, notwithstanding the perishable nature of the material, and their exposure, for centuries, to the weather, in a very superior state of preservation to the monuments of the ancient lords, although the latter were wrought in alabaster, and sheltered in the church. The pediment likewise contains a niche, with a superb canopy of tabernacle work, under which is a figure, in a sitting posture, and a small circular window over it. The passage through the building, which is about fifteen yards,—and this determines its extent in that direction,—has for its ceiling the boards of the floor of the room above, curiously traversed, and supported by ribs of oak.

On the right hand of the arch of entrance, or easternmost division of the gateway, is the porch, a projection nearly square, and rising about two-thirds the height of the whole front. This elegant appendage more particularly claims our attention, as it is believed to be the only instance in the kingdom, of so magnificent and highly decorated an entrance attached to a gateway. The mutilated remains of its delicate buttresses, canopies, pinnacles, and ornaments, entitle it to the highest praise, while its graceful proportion, and beautiful execution, surpass our admiration. A

great novelty here observable is, that the entrance is not in the front of the porch, but by a door on each side, over each of which are two tiers of niches with ornamental canopies, the lower containing figures, that on the east front the salutation of the Virgin Mary. The front of the porch is occupied by one large window; the proportion of the arch is nearly that of a triangle, generally considered the most elegant: it originally contained very beautiful tracery, which is now diminished to a few fragments, and the space boarded up. Over this, in the desolated pediment, is a basso relievo, and two grotesque projecting figures. The whole porch was originally surmounted by a handsome parapet, which is now destroyed to a single stone, which being fast, and of great weight, has defied the hand of wilful spoliation, that has produced such general havock upon the whole.\*

On entering to ascend the lofty stone staircase, we behold a most magnificent and highly-wrought niche and canopy, the bracket remaining, but the figure gone. The roof of the porch is very ornamental, consisting of stout ribs cut into a variety of mouldings, with a boss, or knot of leaves and flowers at each intersection. Among the rubbish which time and destruction have accumulated on the outside of the roof, a pretty large sycamore-tree has taken root, and at the period of my last summer visit, presented a pleasing contrast by its cheerful green appearance upon the dingy aspect of the gateway front.

By the proportions, ornaments, and particularly the shape of the arches, canopies, &c., this erection is thought to refer itself to a date as early as Edward III. or that immediately following.

\* A writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, (Dec. 1813,) who recommends, as worthy of attention, these "remains of a once magnificent and extensive assemblage of buildings," observes, "While making my memoranda of this beautiful gateway, I had the mortification to see a number of boys amusing themselves, by climbing between the mullions of the windows, and mischievously destroying the parapet of the porch, by throwing down the stones."

This appears to have brought the abbey into notice. A second correspondent to this rich repository of antiquarian lore, bears a similar, but more elaborate testimony. "I cannot," says he, "suppress my feelings of indignation, when an eye-witness to these scenes of wanton mischief, and I am unable, by arguments on the spot, to stop its progress. No expostulations of mine could induce the juvenile destroyers to quit the roof of the porch which adorns the gateway, and is the entrance to the rooms above. Among other ornaments, which are destined to suffer from their situation, is a *basso relievo* in front, under the ruined pediment, containing three or four figures, much injured by time and violence, and every effort was made to separate the stones. From such frequent practices, it is painful to remark, that but one stone now remains of the ornamental parapet of the side walls, to convey a design of what the whole was originally. Other equally fatal instances of destruction might here be produced; but it is

hoped that these mentioned will be sufficient to excite the strenuous exertions of some few individuals, who may have the influence necessary to rescue from total destruction these proud remains of former grandeur; and, by a timely and well guided exertion, prevent the farther demolition of buildings, that have subsisted, and been the admiration, of ages."—*Gent. Mag.* August, 1814.

These seasonable and just animadversions were not without their effect, in arousing the attention of the few persons who could appreciate the worth of these venerable remains. The Duke of Norfolk liberally set about the work, upon which he expended £200, besides £50 more, given by his coadjutor, in this, as in other improvements, F. F. Foljambe, Esq.; so that a third correspondent to the above work writes, that, "passing through Worksop, he was glad to find that the whole had undergone a thorough and substantial repair. Great labour had been bestowed to clear the ornaments of the whole, particularly the beautiful and unrivalled porch; and no reparations had taken place, which were not consistent with the old work, except the roof, which is covered with common house tiling." He then suggests a restoration of the tracery and the mullions, the original character of which, he justly observes, might be collected from the original fragments.—*Gent. Mag.* September, 1814.

Its decorations accord with many distributed about the other parts of the building, though, doubtless, the walls and buttresses of the gateway are of an earlier period; the window in the pediment in the east end, when compared with those in front, and contrasted with the light and elegant niches, argue distinct styles, while the great arch, and the capitals which support it, agree with neither in character. Indeed, the alterations appear to have been numerous, the porch itself was no part of the original design, being evidently an after-thought, but it is now unquestionably the chief object of admiration, and contributes so materially by its beauty, to render the effect of the whole impressingly grand.

Immediately adjoining the east end of the gatehouse, an iron railing fences the southern boundary of the churchyard, the only ingress to which, is by a pair of light iron gates, which, when there are no services, are very commendably kept locked. The burial ground, which, although containing 3 roods 30 perches, appears to be too small for the parish, is well enclosed,\* and contains, besides others, a great number of painted headstones; but these being all placed facing the east, and as there is no road on that side of the churchyard, the pleasing effect of their general appearance is quite lost to those who can only pursue the usual path by the western wall. The stones exhibit the usual specimens of epitaphic poetry, but none of them sufficiently good or bad to justify transcription: the following may be acceptable, as of the middling class:—

On a railed tomb, near the entrance of the churchyard, erected to the memory of William Skynner, gent., of Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, there is the following inscription:—

What, though no flattering eulogy profanes  
His shrine; or sculptured marble courts the eye;  
Enough this simple record still contains,  
To wake affection's tear, or friendship's sigh.

A headstone, nearer the church, exhibits the following effusion of parental tenderness:—

I.  
Farewell, departed child, farewell!  
Who can suppress the flowing tear?  
Yet why should grief our bosoms swell,  
While faith exults without a fear?

III.  
Farewell, departed child, farewell!  
Released from all the storms of time,  
Thy happy spirit fears no fall  
In yon serene and blissful clime.

II.  
Farewell, departed child, farewell!  
Gone to the mansions of the blest;  
What language can thy triumphs tell,  
Now thou art entered into rest?

IV.  
Farewell, departed child, farewell!  
Until we all shall meet above,  
And join with the redeemed to tell  
The wonders of Immanuel's love.

\* The churchyard appears, however, to have been infested with more than one colony of vermin, as we have the following items connected with their extermination:—

" 1669, pd for 4 moles catching in the churchyard,	1s. 4s.
" Do. two others, .....	0 8
" 1700 five more, .....	1 8."

Intruders of a more harmless nature seem to have been dislodged from the church, as a 5th of November amusement:—

" 1696, Nov. 5th, pd for shot and powder, and shooting ye pigeons at ye church, .....	0s. 6d."
One day did not suffice for this sport, as there is another similar item the same year.	

An upright *stone* contains the following lines, evidently not original:—

Lo, where this silent *marble* weeps,  
A friend, a wife, a mother sleeps:  
A heart, within whose sacred cell,  
The peaceful virtues loved to dwell:  
Affection warm, and faith sincere,  
And soft humanity were there:  
In agony, in death resigned,  
She felt the wound she left behind.

Her infant image, here below,  
Sits smiling on a father's woe,  
Whom what awaits, while yet he strays,  
Along the lonely vale of days.  
A pang, to secret sorrow dear;  
A sigh, an unavailing tear;  
Till time shall every grief remove,  
With life, with memory, and with love.

A husband thus commemorates his deceased wife:—

Dear loving faithful partner, now farewell,  
With whom it was my happiness to dwell:  
With whom I was united heart with heart,  
From whom it is so painful thus to part.

Yet shall the gracious hand that took thee hence,  
By love divine thy absence recompense:  
Prepare me for the bliss thou hast; and then  
Eternity, unite us both again.

On another headstone:—

Happy the child, who, privileged by fate,  
To shorter labour, and a lighter weight;

Received but yesterday the gift of breath,  
Ordered to-morrow to return to death.

On a tombstone, Samuel Shaw, aged 19:—

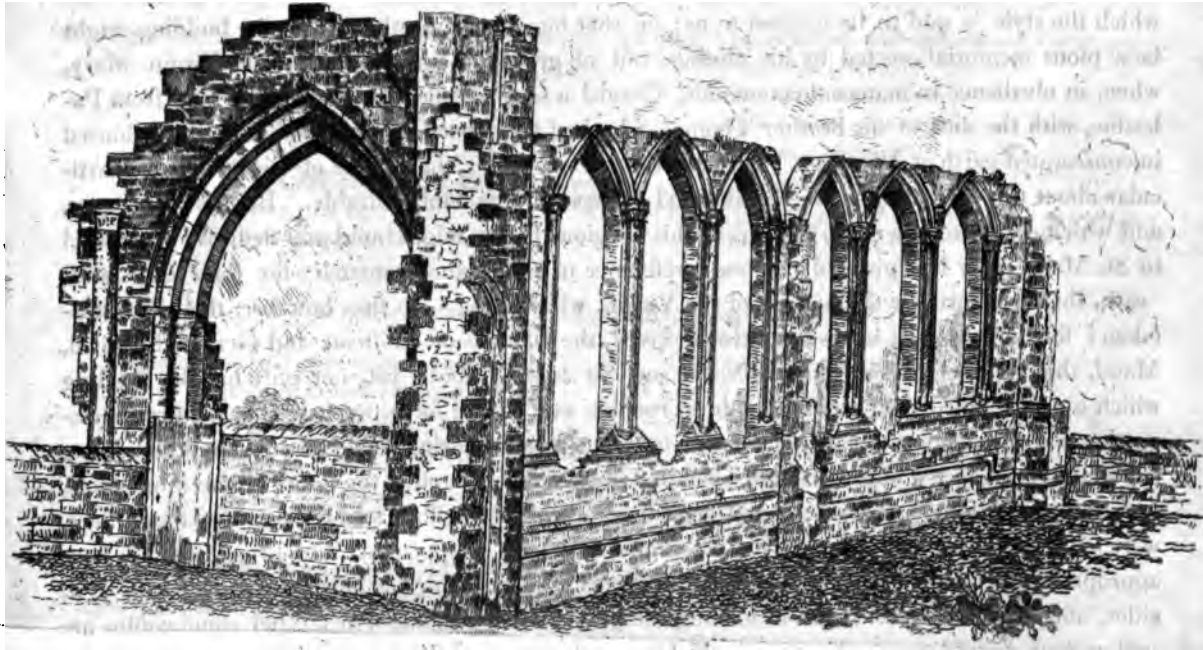
“ Though blooming, healthy, hopeful, young, and gay,  
You too, like me, may soon be called away.”

Few of the remaining memorials exhibit any thing striking in their structure or inscriptions. There is an ancient and ponderous tomb near the church wall, but the name is quite gone, and the remainder of the lettering too much obliterated, to allow of its being read.\* On each side of the porch are railed burial enclosures: one of which, (Champion's of Blyth,) I noticed, was grown over with mallows, in full flower; and the other, (Dethick's,) no less appropriately with red poppies. An adjoining headstone records the following instance of fecundity and mortality:—“ In memory of William and Martha Wright, and of seventeen of their children, whom *THEY SAW* interred near this place.”

Of the exact size of the plot of ground, originally appropriated for interments, it is not possible now to form an accurate estimate; but that it included the croft, now Mr. Hooson's, appears certain, both from the circumstance of its being called “the old churchyard close,” and the fact, that both wooden coffins and bones were found, when digging therein, a few years ago.

\* On opening this tomb, or a grave adjacent, about forty years ago, for the interment of a Mr. Sims, a stone coffin is said to have been found, and the lid removed in the presence of

Mr. Ward, the vicar, when a body was presented nearly perfect, but which presently crumbled into dust on exposure to the air.



SOUTH-WEST VIEW OF ST. MARY'S CHAPEL, IN ITS PRESENT STATE, 1833.

The next ancient relic of attraction is the remains of St. Mary's Chapel, at the north-east angle of the church-yard; this ruin is universally admired as an exquisite architectural gem. The elegance of the design, the beauty of the workmanship, and the exact symmetry of all the parts render it interesting to the eye of taste, however little practised on such subjects, while the connoisseur in architecture regards it as one of the rarest vignettes of the art. At what period this elaborate appendage to the monastery was built, it would not be easy to determine, but evidently long subsequent to the original foundation; for, while the massy pillars in the church, the vaulted stone roofs extant in the ruins, and the zigzag ornaments of the doorways, both in one place and the other, would clearly indicate, even without any written evidence, that those portions belonged to a period soon after the conquest; the characteristics of the present fragment, with equal clearness, refer it to an era, not earlier than the time of Edward the Third, when a lighter and more elegant style prevailed. The ground site of this chapel, which was originally attached to the south transept, is about fourteen yards by eight, and the windows, six in number, on the side remaining, afford one of the finest specimens in the kingdom, of that tall, narrow, pointed, light, denominated the lancet shape.

As it is not possible, accurately to fix the period of the erection of this chapel, it would be still more difficult to assign the founder, or even, perhaps, to offer a plausible conjecture, as to whom the claim belongs. I once inclined to the opinion that it was built by Gerard de Furnival,

after his return from the Holy Land, where he might have seen the Saracenic originals, from which the style is said to be derived to us; or, that he, furnishing the design, the building might be a pious memorial erected by his mother, out of gratitude, in honour of the Virgin Mary, when, in obedience to maternal commands, Gerard a second time visited, and returned from Palestine, with the dust of his brother Thomas, who had there been slain, and was afterwards buried in consecrated earth at Worksop. Against this presumption, the silence of Pigot, who is particular about this Thomas, must be admitted to depose rather unfavourably. Be that as it may, and which soever of the noble patrons of this religious house, might build and dedicate this chapel to St. Mary, they had probably no less a reference to a perpetual sanctuary for their ashes after death, than a regard for the honour of the Virgin, while living. In this, however, they were mistaken; for, although it seems to have received the remains of William and Gerard Furnival, Maud, the daughter of Sir Thomas Nevil, and Sir John Talbot; yet, not only has the building which once canopied their memorials, been roofless, and ruined for centuries,—the very ruins disparting and threatening to fall, but even their coffins have been dug from the earth, and after lying exposed and neglected above ground, have probably long ago sanded the floors of the inhabitants, or been used for other purposes not less degrading. Two stone coffins, said to have been found here, were once to be seen in the church, but these have long since disappeared. The Froggatt family have appropriated this little ruined chapel, as their burying place, which is now grown over with yew, elder, and bramble-bushes; and in making the grave, some years ago, two other stone coffins are said to have been discovered, one of which was taken up and broken, and the other left in the earth: whether these enclosed any of the illustrious defunct mentioned by Pigot, it does not seem necessary to determine, but the history of one of their monuments must not be passed over without a notice.

The poetical chronicler states, that Sir William Furnival "In our lady chappell was beried," and that he there "Lyeth tumulate full worshipfully, all in free-stone;" he then gives the leonine verses, which the reader will recollect in the poem: these, however, he has somewhat inaccurately transcribed, and we are indebted to Dr. Pegge for the true reading, which is as follows:—

*" Me memorans palle : similis curriq ; calls  
De Fournivalle, pro Willielmo rogo palle."\**

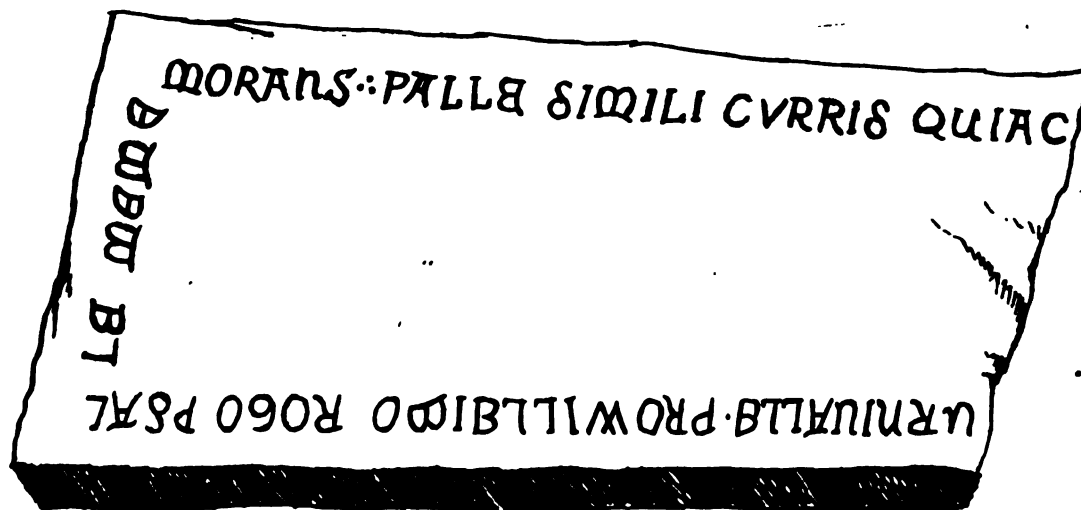
Upon this Mr. Hunter observes, in reference to the poet and the epitaph,—*" Most incorrectly has he copied the monkish epitaph. It may still be read, the letters printed in italics only excepted, the most perfect memorial of the ancient lords of Hallamshire, now at Worksop."*† So it was

\* Perhaps the sense of these monkish rhymes may thus be given in plain prose:—"Remembering me, turn pale! and as thou art running in a like path, sing a psalm, I entreat thee, for William de Furnival."

trouble to collate the fac-simile inscription in the engraving, and the verses in the Chronicle, p. 89, with the reading of Dr. Pegge, will think, that the charge of having copied the epitaph *"Most incorrectly,"* is hardly justified.

† Hallamshire, p. 34. Perhaps the reader, who takes the

when the historian wrote; and for several years afterwards, it lay in the churchyard, near the old vicarage, neglected by the inhabitants, but still an object of interest and curiosity to strangers.



DRAUGHT OF THE INSCRIPTION, IN LANGOARDIC CHARACTERS, ON THE MONUMENT OF WILLIAM DE FURNIVAL, BURIED ABOUT 1200.

When I last visited the town, I inquired what was become of the old stone coffin-lid, as it used to be called; what was my surprise and regret to be told, that it was carried away and converted into a *sinkstone*! I forthwith went to the house of its present possessor, and there I saw the ponderous and venerable monument, which once covered the body of a noble Furnival, built into the kitchen-wall of an adjacent dwelling, excavated in part for the domestic purposes to which it is designed, and the traces of the letters still legible on the remaining surface. What an impressive lecture on the mutations and insecurity of monumental distinction, does the brief history of this gravestone afford!

I have not hesitated to speak of the above ruin, as the remains of the chapel mentioned by Pigot, and in which the above-mentioned Sir William "ordeyned five candells perpetuall to brynne before our Lady;" although I am aware that this has been by some writers, denominated St. Peter's Chapel, which was also on the south side of the church, but probably nearer the porch. If any proofs were wanting to establish its claim to this distinction, we might adduce the elegance of the workmanship, the exhumation of the stone coffins, and lastly, the testimony of popular phraseology, for, by the following item in the parish books, it appears that the ruin has

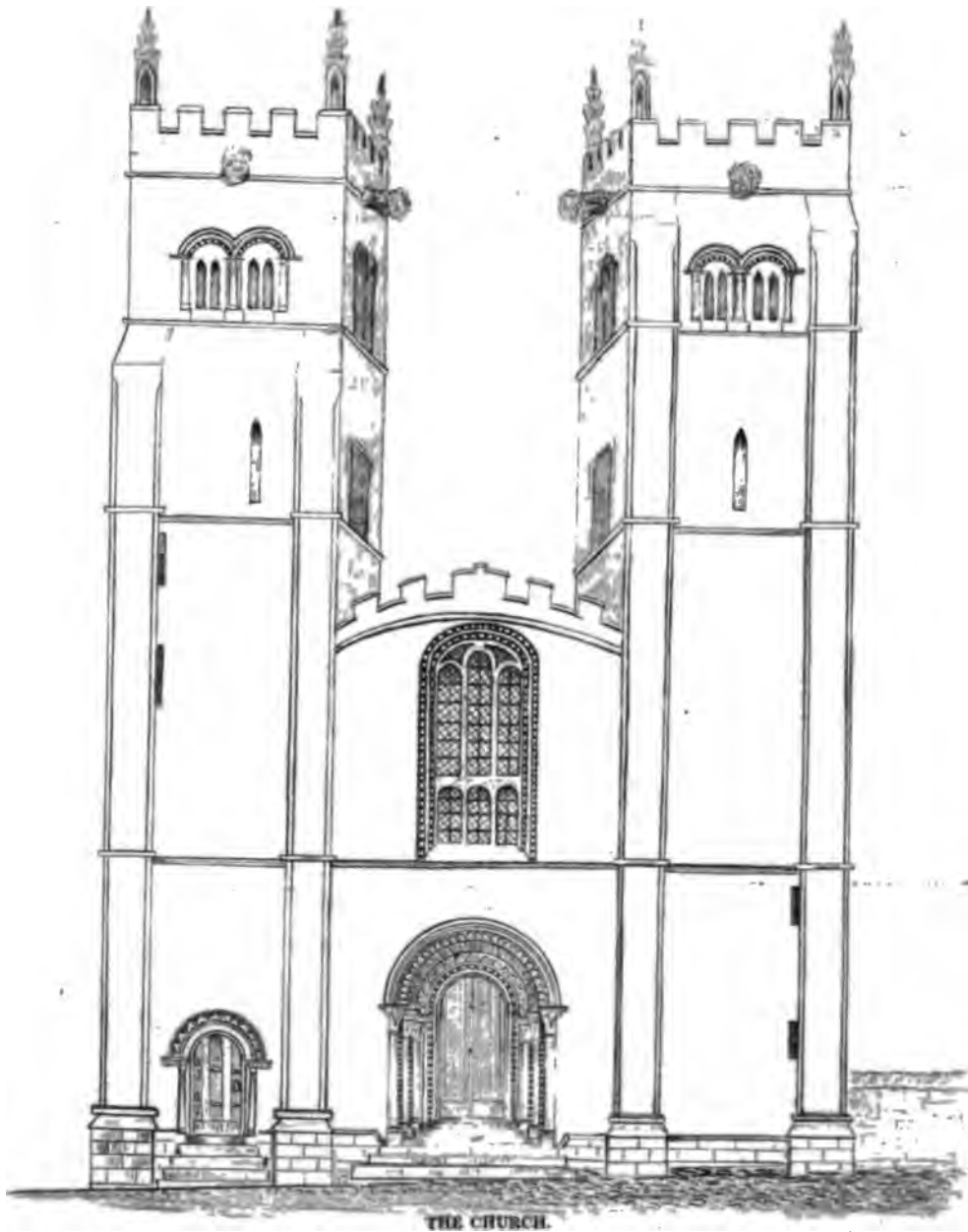
borne its present appellation, for, at least, more than a century:—"1722. Mr. Lane and Jno. Chambers charged going to Nottingham about St. Mary's Chapel, 2. 4. 5." A poor etching of this ruin and the gateway, are given by Throsby in his edition of Thoroton, where, by a strange blunder of the engraver, they are both mislabelled, the sketch of the ruined chapel being designated The Abbey Gateway, while the view of the entrance is called St. Mary's Chapel.

The remainder of the fragments which still exist of the conventual buildings, are some portions of the cloisters on the north side of the church: these are so mutilated and altered, by their adaptation to small dwelling-houses, and the accumulation of rubbish, as to exhibit few traces of their original character. Still, however, there is enough remaining to attract and interest; and, perhaps, the present occupancy of the ruin may retard its destruction; but the visitor cannot, without something like displacency of feeling, observe, that beside the two dwellings above-mentioned, a beautiful fragment is appropriated as a cow-house and piggery.\* It is true, the monks used to keep cattle at their granges; and, moreover, that the "*Porcarius*" was a regular servant in the monastic institution, but little did old Pigot, when he chronicled the glories of his house, foresee that "such things should be," within a fathom of the church. A fine specimen of that ornamented circular-headed arch, which characterises the Saxon portion of the buildings, may be seen in the house occupied by the sexton, and at the entrance of the pantry. This room, which is 19 feet long by 13 feet wide, exhibits a perfect specimen of the original crypt-like dwellings of the canons; the roof is curiously vaulted, and cross-ribbed with stone, and the outlines of similar cells are to be traced on the walls, in the little garden behind the dwellings. Here, also, is a large mass of firmly cemented stones, which, at first sight, might be mistaken for a portion of the original walls, but which, on nearer inspection, is found to consist of pieces of arches, fluted stones, capitals, broken pillars, and other wrought materials; all compactly imbedded in lime. These are evidently a collection of fragments and rubbish, thrown together when the buildings were demolished, and the rain having insinuated itself plentifully through the mass, the lime and sand became mortar, which, hardening through subsequent years, is now so perfectly solid, that it is difficult to detach even a small specimen of the stone.

In the field containing this curious breccial accumulation, various foundations, and other vestiges of architecture, have, at different times, been discovered, but nothing remains that can tend to ascertain the exact extent of the original walls. At present, a smooth green sward affords attractive footing to the casual visitant, where the topographer would rather have seen corner-stones, and inchnographical demarcations; albeit, the owner of the pasture will probably concur with the former description, notwithstanding his antiquarian predilection, for, seeing the writer of these pages on the spot, he came up, and very gratuitously informed him that "this place was once a great nunnery, and had been built a thousand centuries!"

\* So it was in January, 1825: but on visiting Worksop in June the same year, I found the ruin and its humiliation removed together, and a trim coach-house erected on the site.





This proud monument of ecclesiastical magnificence, was originally built in the form of a cross, and there yet remain, at the east end, some massy cubes of architecture, with the springing of the arches, which supported the great centre tower, which once rose over the intersection of the

transept, to which, as before observed, the chapel of St. Mary was attached, though now left insulated by the demolition of that part. What now remains, and is used as the church, is only the nave or west end of the original building, and consists of a parallelogram: the architecture is Saxon, and Anglo-Norman on the oldest parts; and, on the outside especially, a mixture of the Gothic, in the more modern. The stone appears to have been brought from Thorp or Lindrick Commons, except that out of which the ornaments are wrought, which was probably from Roche Abbey. The two fine square towers, at the west end, occupy each an area of 462 square feet, and are in height about 100 feet; these have Saxon, Anglo-Norman, and Gothic windows, in different gradations of altitude. At what period these towers were built, or whether constituting any part of the original edifice, is uncertain, although the superbly ornamented Saxon door-way between the towers, might justify their claim to be considered, in their foundation at least, as coeval with the church.\* The earliest Saxon churches had no towers: those of the Normans, at first, were short, broad, and massy: the introduction of bells led to a greater elevation; and it was left to the intrepidity of Gothic architecture to surmount it with a spire, or an array of airy pinnacles. That the church had bells at the beginning, or was designed to have them, may perhaps be inferred from a clause in the bull of Pope Alexander III., A. D. 1154, which inhibits ringing during any period of general interdict. But that one or both of these towers either remained unfinished, or required some alteration three centuries afterward, is unquestionable, from the will of Thomas Nevil, Lord Furnival, dated March 12, 1406, in which, after bequeathing his body to be buried in the priory church of Worksop, and leaving the king his best cup of gold, with the cover, he gives "*to the fabrick of the steeple at Worksop, forty pounds,*" unless we refer this donation to the erection of the centre tower, which might then be going on. But, however uncertain the date of the foundation, or the period when the top-stone was placed upon the surviving towers, they have since been dismantled, and the ornamental stone-work renewed, as appears by the following item, from the church-books:—"1689. Paid Robt. Brookfield and Jno. Copley, for making two new buttresses, and taking down and setting up ye battlement of the steeple, 10. 00. 00."

The manner in which societies or individuals notice national and passing events, is, perhaps, not altogether an unfair criterion of the public or private feelings of the person or the party. If, therefore, the ringing of bells on all events connected with the expression of national joy, be any proof of the loyalty of the town, the good people of Worksop possess a just claim to that distinction; for, it appears from the church books, that the steeple never failed to resound, when good news or royal commemorations called for rejoicing in the kingdom.†

\* Of these towers, it has been remarked, that the masonry was so perfect, that scarcely a joint was to be seen. Time, however, which disjoins every thing terrestrial, and nothing more certainly sooner or later than mortared stones, has now rendered sufficiently apparent the interstices of the layers; and mural plants are now growing pendulous from the walls, where the minutest seed could once hardly have found nourishment.

† The following minute is preserved in the churchwardens'

book:—"Be it noted, that on July 12, 1687, Thomas Calton, vicar, and John Champion, jun. and William Axwith, being churchwardens, they began to ring at 5 o'clock in the morning, 12 at noon, and 8 at night, throughout the year. The which, in the memory of man, was not before; and the clock-case was made." These bells continue to be rung; and of the clock, it may here be remarked, that the only dial it has, is *within* the tower.

Henry, the seventh Duke of Norfolk, bore the honours of his family at the time of the revolution in 1688. He was the particular friend of King James, who bestowed many favours upon him, but seeing and lamenting the arbitrary measures of that monarch, and after joining in many ineffectual attempts to rectify the royal opinion, he retired to Norfolk, and declared for the Prince of Orange. In all subsequent measures, he proved himself a steady friend to the revolution, and voted for the settlement of the crown in King William and Queen Mary. On the ceremonial of this event, the bells of Worksoy, with most others in the kingdom, were joyfully raised. In 1689, there is an account of money, "pd for the ringers at the king's coronation:" and they appear to have rung hard, for there follows a pretty considerable item for repairs in the belfrey. William, in 1695, visited the beautiful residence of the Duke of Newcastle; the inhabitants of Worksoy were not insensible to this approximation of majesty, and their bells were not silent, for we have, "pd for ringing when King William came to Welbeck, 00. 08. 00." The following entries may be added here:—"For ringing at the taking of Namur, 00. 03. 00." Do. "for the safe deliverance of the king at Namur, 00. 06. 08." "To the ringers for the discovery of the Plot, 00 03. 00." June, 1715. "To the ringers upon King George's accession to the crown, 5. 0." "At the coronation, 5. 0." "1715. To the ringers upon hearing ye rebels routed at Preston, 2. 6." "1715.  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of powder given to the boys at the associates' mustering, 0. 0. 7." It appears, that at this period, some of the bells were broken, and their machinery out of repair, which induced the inhabitants to have them restored, probably with some addition to their number. On this subject we have following entries, among others:—

	£	s.	d.
" 1719. Expended with Mr. Hadderley, bell-founder, ... ..	0	3	10
" 1719. Writing a petition to the Duke of Norfolk for bells, ... ..	0	1	0
" 1721. For carrying 3 bells to Windfield Manor, and bringing 'em back, ... ..	2	5	0
" 1721. Expended on Mr. Harrison, when he paid the Duke of Newcastle's subscription of 10 guineas, [for the bells,] ... ..	0	9	0
" 1721. To the ringers the first time the bells were up, ... ..	0	6	0
" Bell-hanger's bill, ... ..	26	0	0
" 1721. Paid for ale and wine, when Sir Thomas Hewitt came to hear the bells ring, ... ..	0	9	0

The inhabitants appear still to have been dissatisfied with the music of their steeple, for, at a church-meeting, held January 24, 1759, a number of them came to the following resolution:—"We, whose names are hereunto set, at a vestry held this day, do agree, that the churchwardens shall get the six bells run over again, as witness our hands." Twenty-six persons attached their names. The churchwardens, in pursuance of this vote, called a meeting of the inhabitants, to lay an assessment towards the expense of carrying it into effect, but "no satisfactory calculation or account

having been produced of taking down the bells, recasting them, and hanging them again ; therefore, we do dissent, at present, from laying them any assessment for that purpose. Witness our hands, Feb. 1, 1759." This was signed by twenty-eight dissentients, and the meeting adjourned to the 8th of the same month, when twenty-four persons subscribed themselves dissentient from the assessment, as no satisfactory estimate of expenses was yet produced.

There are two ways of entrance to the interior of this venerable fabric ; one by a door at the west end, between the towers, and leading principally to the galleries, belfrey, clock-house, &c. ; the other by a porch on the south side ; within this porch, on the right hand, and over the inner door, are empty niches, which, probably, once contained images of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert, or others. The folding doors of massy oak, are very curiously overlaid with a light scroll-work of iron, the nail-heads of which have been covered with brass rosettes : the vestry door is ornamented in a similar manner.

The body of the church, which consists of a nave and two side aisles, without any particular partition in the area, except two portions of a screen which mark the division between the chancel and the nave,—is one hundred and twenty feet long, from the altar-piece to the west entrance, and fifty-one feet laterally from wall to wall. The most of this space is occupied by pews, generally of that irregular construction and arrangement which characterises our old churches.\*

\* In 1684, by virtue of a precept from John, Archbishop of York, appointing certain persons for that purpose, an adjudication of all the seats in the church, took place, the plan and specification of which was registered at York, in the following terms, according to a certified copy lying before me :—

" *To all faithful men in Christ, to whom these p'sents shall come, greeting, whereas, wee, William Sampson, rector of Clawworth ; Thomas Hogeringall, rector of Warksop ; William Wintringham, vicar of East Retford ; Samuel Turner, vicar of Blythe ; William Silvertown, vicar of Edwinstow ; Richard Butter, George Donstan, John Champion, jun., John Button, of Worksop, in the county of Nottingham, have, amongst others, named in a commission from the most reverend Father in God, John, Lord Archbishop of York, Primate of England, and metropolitan, under the consistory seals, bearing date at York, the twentieth day of August last passed, received full power and authority to allot and assigne unto the several inhabitants and parishioners of the parish of Worksopp aforesaid, wherein to sit, stand, and kneel, to hear divine service and sermons, according to their respective degrees, estates, and conditions, as we should, in our judgments and discretions, think meet and convenient, as relation being had to the said commission, will more fully appeare. Now, know ye, that we, the said [commissioners,] according to the authority given to*

*us, do by these presents allot and assigne the seats, stalls, or pews, within the parish church of Worksopp aforesaid, to the several inhabitants and parishioners of the said parish, extending from the quire to the west end of the said church, in manner and form following :—[ Then follows a scheme of the allotment, with the names of the respective pew-tenants. ]*

" *And to the end that this present allotment and assignment of the seats, pews, and stalls, as is before particularly mentioned and expressed, may avail and be effectual to the making and settling of Christian love and peace among the parishioners of the parish aforesaid, according to the true intent and meaning of the commission above-named, we, the said [commissioners,] by these presents, null and make void all and every allotment and assignment, and all and every order and orders, for the allotting and assigning of all and every of the said seats, pews, and stalls, heretofore had, made, or granted. And we do farther order, by these presents, that all and every servant and servants, within the said parish of Worksop, not having a p'ticular seat or pew allotted to them, or any of them, by those p'ts, shall be and remain in the alley and alleys, from time to time, and all times hereafter during divine service and sermons. In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, the seventh day of November, Anno Dai. 1684."*

The roof of the nave is supported by sixteen pillars, eight on each side, alternately octangular and cylindrical; measuring ten feet six inches in circumference; the capitals ornamented after the Saxon fashion, and supporting the arches, which are adorned with a kind of large perforated nailhead tracery. Over these are clerestory windows, in two alternate rows; the first over the arches, the others, in a latter style, over the intervals, and above the respective pillars; the whole presenting a very handsome appearance, from the profusion of chevron and nailhead tracery, with which they are surrounded. In one of the windows over the north gallery, there are some remains of stained glass, seemingly representing the Virgin Mary, with a coronet on her head, and the infant Jesus in her arms; also a picture of a bishop, with his crosier. There is likewise the remains of some other subject in one of the windows of the upper tier, probably some portion of the heraldic insignia mentioned by Dodsworth,\* but too elevated to be distinctly made out. These are the only fenestral embellishments at present existing, though doubtlessly the church, in its pristine state, contained many more. There are two galleries, one at the west end, under the organ, and the other on the north side, erected by subscription, in 1760. It has been proposed to build another gallery on the south side, but the obstruction of the light, and the inadequacy of the walls to support it, are pleaded against an accommodation, seemingly called for by the wants of the inhabitants.†

The pulpit and reading desk anciently stood on the north side of the church; but at a vestry meeting, held 22d September, 1757, the inhabitants agreed "that it should be removed, and placed in the chancel, fronting the west door, provided it could be done without expense to the parish." The old pulpit, which is of oak, and a beautiful and curious specimen of ancient workmanship, is placed on a platform, containing the clerk's and minister's reading desks; an arrangement strikingly judicious and pleasing.

The price of an organ, originally the gift of Mr. Foljambe, of Osberton, and found to be defective, with a subscription of the inhabitants, contributed to purchase the present efficient instrument. The font, if not modern, is not remarkable. Bray has noticed its "very antique wooden cover."

We now come to notice, what must ever be considered as of paramount importance to the antiquary, and no less interesting to the general visitor—the monuments of the illustrious dead;

\* Under—*Johannis Townley, Knight.*

Or. a lyon rampant' gules.

Or. a fretted S. chief the first. He likewise notices a shield, charged quarterly with a fess and three mullets, and three goats rampant; ye crest a pigeon, ar. beaked and feet or.—*Dods. MSS.*

† It would appear from the following entry in the parish register, under 1680, that there has been a small gallery on this side:—"Let all posterity know by these presents here

enrolled, that whereas William Medley, hath himself alone, of his own charges, built a loft in the church, betwixt two pillars next to the south church door, and has disbursed [six?] pounds for the finishing of the same, wherein there are seven seats, which will contain, every one of them, six persons a-piece. Now, being desirous to have the foremost seat in the said loft, (which will contain six persons,) enrolled for himself, and those hereafter expressed, whom he hath nominated; we, therefore, the minister and churchwardens," &c. &c.

and in these striking autographs of contemporary history, the church of Worksop was at one time eminently rich. "Here," says Mr. Hunter,\* "the funeral obsequies of the ancient lords of Hallamshire were performed; and here their bodies, one by one, were returned to the earth, out of which they were taken. Before the Reformation, might be seen, a fine series of their monuments, ranged on each side the choir, immediately before the altar, and in the Lady Chapel, commencing with the founder, and ending with the third Earl of Shrewsbury, in the time of Edward IV., but not without some intermissions. What a noble study for the monumental architecture of this kingdom! What a deep impression must they have communicated of the existence of heroes of former days!" The zeal of reformation, which demolished the priory, disrupted from their original situations this once splendid series, and the mutilated fragments were long suffered to lie in disorder within the church, exposed alike to ignorant neglect and wanton injury. For many years the number has been reduced to three; two for males,† the other a female. These are mentioned by Dodsworth in his Church Notes, and are described with some minuteness by Gough, in his "Sepulchral Antiquities," where he has illustrated his remarks on the identity of the statues, and the characters of the individuals whom he supposes them to represent, by copious quotations from the Rhyming Chronicles of Pigot. When Gough wrote, they were lying at "the upper end of the south aisle:" this situation is now occupied by the scholars of the Abbey School; and the three figures, originally lying upon the blocks of marble to which they are attached, are now, with their mattresses on their backs, placed upright against the wall, at the top of the north aisle. The female remains nearly of the original length; but both the males having lost their legs, are now Widdrington-like, erected on their stumps, upon stone tablets, supported by a basement of bricks.

The figure next the entrance is described by Gough, as representing "a knight, in a pointed helmet and frontlet, gorget of mail, on his surcoat a fess between six martlets, his belt is studded, under his head a double cushion, with angels: the slab on which he lies is bordered with foliage.

"This, by the arms, belongs to one of the Furnivals; and having no lady with him, I should be tempted to ascribe it to Thomas Furnival, fifth of the name, recited by Dugdale, (Bar. I. 727,) who was buried under a tomb of alabaster, above the choir, here: the time of his death uncertain, but before, or about 39 Edward III.‡

"In the same church," continues Gough, "are two alabaster figures, of a knight, in a pointed helmet, with a corolla round it, and a frontlet of oak leaves, plated armour, a saltier, with a martlet, for difference, on his surcoat, studded belt, his elbow and knee-pieces trefoil pattern, helmet under head, with a beast's head for crest, a lion at his feet: at his right hand a lady, in a reticu-

\* Hallamshire, p. 28.

† Dodsworth mentions "another in wood, of a knight armed, cross-legged, which hath likewise been removed: (from

some other situation in the church,) upon his arm a faire shield, but no charge."—*Dods. MSS.*

‡ *Sepulchral Antiquities*, vol. I. p. 181.

lated head-dress, slender face and neck, mantle and boddice, and plaited petticoat, double cushion under her head, with angels.

" This represents Thomas Nevil, brother of Ralph, first Earl of Westmoreland, who, by marriage with Joan, daughter and heir of William first, [he means first Lord *William*] Lord Furnival, who died 6th Richard II."\* For whom the monument with the female figure was intended, does not satisfactorily appear. Gough cites the verses of Pigot, to shew that it represents Joan, the daughter of the last Lord Furnival, of his line, and first wife of the above Thomas Nevil, who was certainly buried at Worksop :—

*" Next Thomas Nevill that was her husband,  
In alabaster an ymage Sir Thomas rightners  
As he is tumulate, on his right hand."*

This might seem to corroborate the opinion of Gough, especially if he had described the monuments in their original positions, but that was not the case; and as the figures are on *separate* slabs, her lying at the *right hand* of the figure of Thomas Nevil, was merely incidental. There is, however, a still more powerful argument against the above appropriation of the monument. If an authority quoted by Mr. Hunter may be relied on,† the identical "ymage" of this lady, mentioned by Pigot, is now to be seen, beside the communion table, in Barlborough church.

The whitewash, which has been noticed by more than one traveller, as investing the monuments at Worksop, is now removed, and with it, no doubt, some of the little prominence of features which time and insult had left to the figures, the physiognomy of each being almost entirely

\* Sepulchral Antiquities, vol. i. p. 183.

† Francis Bossano, a herald painter, of Derby, who has preserved the following fragment of an inscription visible at Barlborough about 1707 :—

" Hic jacet....Johanna fil....haer.....Willielmi Fournival.....Tho....."—*Hallamshire*, p. 41.

The reader will naturally inquire, by what process this effigy came to be removed from its original situation here to a neighbouring village church? Mr. Hunter thus accounts for it:—"Barlborough is about seven miles from Worksop, and it might be removed thither at the time when the havoc was committed among the monuments at Worksop: or, perhaps, a few years after the Reformation, Judge Rodes, who was senechal to the Earl of Shrewsbury, might obtain the family's permission to remove this, the most perfect of the monuments, from the ruined church at Worksop, to grace the church of Barlborough, his newly acquired estate and residence." This gratuitous, but ingenious hypothesis, must be admitted to dispose as satisfactorily as such kind of evidence can do: and it

would be easier to interpose objections than to remove them. That many of the old monuments have been destroyed or dispersed, is certain; that Judge Rodes might ask, and receive permission to remove one, appears probable; but that Pigot should have mentioned only one figure of a female at Worksop, and that one such is still there remaining, in a state similar to the other monuments, and that this has been considered to belong to Lady Nevil: while the authority for the Barlborough figure, and its alleged, but now no longer legible inscription, rests upon the single, and, perhaps, somewhat slender testimony of the above herald painter, naturally inclines the judgment to a reluctant, and somewhat wary admission of a fact, not to be doubted, if Mr. Hunter's authority, the *Magna Britannia*, be correct in its statement of the arms and inscription on the above monument, which are now too thoroughly worn to be deciphered. Perhaps no peculiar force is to be attributed to the word "ymage," as used by Pigot, although this epithet applies with much less propriety to the Barlborough figure, which is in very indifferent *bas-relief*, and might rather be called a picture. It is a little remarkable on the other hand, that Dodsworth does not mention the Worksop figure at all.

obliterated. The lion still remains in tolerable preservation ; and the curiously accurate description of Gough may still be accredited on the spot by a close examination of the figures.

Among the monuments mentioned by Pigot, but now no longer remaining, may here be noticed, more particularly those erected to the memory of Thomas de Furnival, and John Talbot, second Earl of Shrewsbury ; the former, on account of the affecting incident connected with it, and the latter, for its inscription. In the Rhyming Chronicles of Pigot, the reader will have noticed the death and burial of the above-mentioned Thomas, but Mr. Hunter's explicatory metaphor of the monk's account, is so beautiful that I cannot forbear transcribing it here. Thomas fell by the hands of the Saracens ; " His brother and companion, Gerard, buried the body, and returned to his native land. There is a romantic story connected with this event ; when the mother heard the melancholy tidings, her sorrow is said to have been excessive. Her mind dwelt not more on the loss she had sustained of her eldest hope, than on the shameful fact, that he whose life had been sacrificed to Christian zeal, should lie in ground that was cursed by the step of the infidel. This cause of grief, was, however, removable ; and with true filial piety, the younger son is said to have undertaken, once more, a journey to the east, and from thence to have brought away what could be collected of the beloved corpse. With proper Christian solemnities, she had it honourably interred in the church of Worksop, and placed over it a superb monument adorned with precious stones, and especially with a noble carbuncle. We are so accustomed," continues Mr. Hunter, " to contemplate the characters of the persons who lived in those remote ages, through the medium of their legal transactions, which does not often allow of our discerning any of the finer and discriminative traits of character that the mind receives, with, perhaps, an excessive degree of incredulity, any anecdote in which private sentiment and individual feeling are displayed. But the individuals of the human species were always marked by peculiar temperaments, and distinguished not more by their features, than by different degrees of taste, knowledge, and affection. The credit of this story depends upon the tradition of the house of Worksop, committed to writing in the time of Edward IV. by one who had the monument daily before his eyes."\*

We are likewise indebted to Pigot, the poetical chronicler, for the latter of the subjoined inscriptions, both of which once appeared on the monument of John, second Earl of Shrewsbury :—

## I.

*Sepulchrum magnanimi atque præpotentis Domini, Domini Johannis de Talbot comitis Salopiæ secundi, ex regio sanguine ducentis originem. Qui Henrico regi fidissimus, bello apud Northamptoniam gesto, ante signa strenue pugnans, honesta morte occidit die decimo Julii Anno D. Nostri J. C. 1460 : cujus animæ propitiatur Deus. Amen.†*

\* Hallamshire, p. 33.

† The tomb of the magnanimous and powerful lord, Lord John Talbot, second Earl of Shrewsbury, deriving his origin from royal blood. He was most faithful to King Henry, va-

liantly fighting under his standard, in the battle waged at Northampton, he died an honourable death, being slain on the tenth day of July, in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ, 1460 ; on whose soul may God have mercy. Amen.



II.

Salopiæ comitis lapis hic tegit ossa Johannis,  
Cui nihil antiquius quam fuit alma fides :  
Hic ut serviret regi tormenta subivit  
Intrepidus ferri, sanguineamque necem :  
Ergo licet parvum condât sua viscera saxum,  
Virtus Angligenum lustrat in omne solum.\*

The mortuary inscriptions in different parts of the church must now be noticed.



On entering by the great western door, we perceive, on the pavement, the names of Binney, Clarke, Robinson, Hodgkinson, Mason, and Whitaker; the last a blue flag, with an oval, containing a shield, sable, a fess or. between three mascles. On passing the light ceiling which covers the entrance, the floor exhibits the following names:—Whitaker, Hoograve, Hannam, Clarke, Cowley, Oxley, Wilment, Lund, Skynner, Raynes, Barker, Amery. In the north aisle there is a noble flag, inscribed, "William Rosendale, January 21, 1664." On another, near the bottom, "Here lyeth interred the body of John Clarke, the husband of Catharine Clarke, who dyed on the third day of March, anno Dni'....."date covered: adjoining the last-mentioned, "Here lyeth the body of Elizabeth Holl.....widow, who died September 5, 1657." A fine pavement stone adjacent is thus inscribed:—"Spe Resurgendi ad Æternam vitam Requiescit hic corpus Kenelmi Holmker. K. F. qui in Dno' obdormivit 5<sup>o</sup> Julij anno Dni' 1674." On the middle of the same stone, "Here lyeth the body of John Hardwick, Esquire, who died December 5, anno Dni 1618." There is also a small copper-plate, with a Latin inscription, attached to the stone, but being partly covered by a pew, I could not transcribe this, nor, indeed, some others, owing to similar obstacles. Other miscellaneous stones in the floor, record the names of Wood, Huthwaite, Roe—an old name in the parish, Burnet, Mander, R. R. Toone, Barbaroux, Champion, Kirkby of Gateford, Ellis of Gateford, Wright; a copper-plate, affixed to a large stone, inscribed to the memory of three children, of "Rawstorn, and Dorothy Bradshaw." On a large freestone, in the middle aisle,—“ Henry Donstan, Esqr., 1731.” In the same aisle,—Richardson, with a

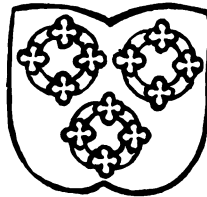
\* The following rhyming version of the Latin lines, as it lies before me, may not be unacceptable to the English reader:—

The bones repose beneath this tomb  
Of John, Earl Shrewsbury; to whom  
When living, nought of life or death,  
Was dearer than the Christian faith.  
He, when in war, his form appear'd,  
No swordsman's prowess ever fear'd;  
'Midst wounds, till death his fate did seal,  
He serv'd his king with loyal zeal.

Wherefore, although this little stone,  
Hides his remains, now he is gone;  
His fame and bravery still unbound,  
Are echoed o'er all English ground.

"High commendations," says Stevens, "for a man that dy'd in defence of an usurper." But Mr. Hunter suggests, with great probability, that these inscriptions were not placed over the earl's grave, "till the adherents of the house of Lancaster saw the crown placed upon the head of the Earl of Richmond."

brass plate, containing, within a shield, three chaplets, the arms of Lassels of Gateford, and these lines:—



“ Thus falls ye cedar wch whilst it stood,  
The only glory of the flourishing wood,  
Courteous to all, and for Truth right just,  
Was excellent, Alas! now gone to dust.  
All you that read, and do survive, take care,  
For this most certain exit to prepare.”

On the elevation about the communion table, there are several inscribed stones, some covered, and others almost obliterated. I decyphered the following names:—Benjamin Bates, &c. 1732,” “ Ann Sims, &c. 1781,” “ Letitia Chambers, &c. 1801;” the family of Machon; the stone, inscribed at the foot, “ Cornelius Heathcote Rodes, Esq.” Near the last-mentioned, a fragment, upon which the name of Rodes may be traced; and attached to which, is a brass plate, in memory of William Vessey, of Gateford, and Elizabeth his wife. Within the railing,—“ Francis Owtram,” 1763: one adjoining, uninscribed,—“ Joshua Kirkby, gent. Died Jan. 3, 1747, &c.” Near this lies a large stone, with a border inscription, in square characters, too much obliterated to furnish either name or date with certainty, but upon which may still be traced the figure of a man, his head partly distinct, and his feet, with the chequer work at the bottom of his garment, very legible. Perhaps it might not be safe to appropriate this stone to “ Thomas Burdet, of Wicksop, who died 20. Nov. 1435, and made his will, proved Aug. 10, 1436, giving his soul to God Alm. St. Mary, and all saints, and his body to be buried in the ch. of Wyrksop,” though figures apparently corresponding with the above dates, may be indistinctly traced on the stone.

Whether Sir Charles Pilkington, Knt., who died in the above century, was interred here or not, does not appear from any memorial; but in his will, made 3 July, 2. R. III., and proved 25 June, 1485, he gives his soul to God Almighty, St. Mary, and all saints, and orders that his body be buried in the parish church of Wyrksop, before the altar of St. Mary, Virgin.—William Langley, 1796. John Langley, surgeon, 1702. Henson Kirkby, gent. “ The Reverend John Ward, A.M. vicar of this place, died January 26, 1778, aged 60 years.”

The mural monuments are not numerous. Attached to the north wall, a marble tablet bears the following inscription:—“ Near this place lie interred the remains of Barry St. Ledger, Esq.,

who departed this life the 26th of December, 1793, in the 60th year of his age: he was Lieut.-Colonel of the 34th Regiment of Foot, Brigadier-General, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the province of Canada: a brave and humane officer, and served his country with zeal and fidelity upwards of 38 years. Also, Catharine St. Leger, his daughter, departed this life December 12th, 1801, aged 19 years." Two stones placed against this wall record the names of Cresswell and Amery.

On a pillar at the top of the north aisle, there is a naked marble, "Sacred to the memory of Peter Millner, 1797," and Anne his wife. Another pillar, in the middle aisle, bears a marble slate, inscribed for John Broomhead, 1784. Another marble, at the top of the south aisle, indicates the sepulture of Mrs. Annabella Lenton, of Worksop, 1790; and Mrs. Frances Walker, her sister, 1801.

Against the wall, at the bottom of the south aisle, there is a stout brass plate, about 18 inches by 18, enchased in an alabaster frame, with this inscription, in capital letters:—

" Dame Marye Lassell's corps are here,  
 Her soule in Heaven's above,  
 Whose life did shew that filial feare  
 Was mixte with Godly love.  
 A zealous minde, a faithfull hart,  
 To God and to her Friend,  
 A gracious, patient, humble soul,  
 She had unto the ende.  
 Her holys and Religioys care,  
 To have the Gospel taught,  
 Did alwaies argve pvblick good,  
 Before her own she sought.  
 And when ye Lord by her had brovght  
 His word here to remayne,  
 By death he took her to himself  
 With Christ his sonne to raigne.

Obijt nono die Junij Anno Dni 1615."

This plate, which the influence of damp, and the *Aeris sacra Fames*, have suffered to retain its pristine freshness through more than 200 years, is one of the most ancient memorials in the church. The lady, whose pious memory it commemorates, was the wife of Sir George Lascelles, whose brother, Sir Bryan Lascelles,\* was knighted by King James on his way to Belvoir castle,

\* Three of his children were baptised at Worksop, viz. Richard, August 4, 1568; Francis, Feb. 1570; Roger, December 27, 1573.

April 22d, 1603; and whose son Edmund\* occurs among the correspondents of the Earl of Shrewsbury, in the letters published by Mr. Lodge. Dodsworth, in 1634, copied the following inscription, now no longer to be seen, from a stone in the south quire:—"Here lyeth the body of Lascels Rodes, the sonne of Francis Rodes, Esq., begotten of the body of Elizabeth Rodes, sole da: and heire of Sir Georg Lascels, of Gaitfort, knight, who was borne the 21 of January, anno 1619, and buried the 17 of Dec. a°. 1621."

The following inscription, on a stone, has likewise disappeared: I give it on the same authority:—"Here under lyeth Dorothy, wief of William Moseley, of Carbarton, Esq.: they lyued together 34 yeares; by whom she had sonnes, Richard, William, John, & Charles: daughters, Elizabethe & Francia. She dyed the 13 of August, anno dni 1633."

Over the last-mentioned brass plate, there is a handsome marble tablet, thus inscribed:—"Sacred to the memory of Mary, the wife of Isaac Wilson, who died on the 30th day of June, MDCCC., aged thirty-one years.

"The tender Mother, and the virtuous wife,  
The pious Christian, and the Friend sincere;  
All, shone conspicuous in my *Mary's* life,  
Whose relicks find a peaceful mansion here.

"The charms of person, transient graces! fade;  
And earthly happiness but dawns and flies;  
Yet by the Good, when nature's debt is paid,  
The soul immortal, into Bliss shall rise.

"If ever blooming Youth this stone survey,  
Or if it meet a thoughtful Parent's eye;  
Reflect, and think, how short is beauty's day;  
Ah! give to true maternal worth a sigh!

"Pause, serious reader; Pause, upon this tomb,  
And mark the early age of *thirty-one*;  
Behold! th' untimely *night* of death may come,  
Before the noon of human life be gone."

\* "This gentleman was a younger son of an ancient family, formerly seated at Gateford, near Worksop, which descended from a cadet of the Lascelles of Escrick, and Kirby Knoll, in Yorkshire. His intimacy with the Earl of Shrewsbury, which seems to have been formed at an early time of life, probably originated in the proximity of their father's country-seats. James, to whom he had been of some service in London, towards the end of the late reign, appointed him a groom of the privy chamber, and, as appears by papers in the Talbot collection, he wasted the whole of his small fortune at court, without gaining any further preferment. In the course

of the following year, [1605,] he was dismissed upon some trifling offence, and after having made several vain efforts to be re-admitted, was obliged to fly from his creditors in 1607. He informs the Earl, by a letter from Utrecht, of the 25 May, 1609, that he had been allowed to kiss the king's hand before his departure, but could obtain no relief from him; and implores his lordship to assist his wife, whom he had left in England, with three children, in so wretched a situation, that he was forced to divide with her the small sum of twelve pounds, which the Earl of Pembroke had given him to purchase necessaries for his voyage. At his first going abroad, he enlisted

There yet remains another monument to be noticed: a massy altar tomb of alabaster, now standing at the bottom of the south aisle, near the communion rails, but apparently not occupying its original situation. It is without device or inscription, except a lozenge-shaped brass plate, which is let into an elevated ornament of the tomb, at the north end, and filled with a rich assemblage of heraldic insignia, in the following order:—1. Quarterly, on a bend, three mullets. 2. Three martlets, within a border, engrailed. 3. An eagle displayed, debruised by a bendlet. 4. A chevron, between three birds [martlets?] 5. A fish, hauriant. 6. A saltier, between twelve cross crosslets. 7. Quarterly, on a bend, three mullets pierced. 8. On a chief, three roundels. 9. A lion rampant. 10. A chevron, between three lions rampant. 11. Barry of eight. 12. As the first. The colours are not expressed. The reader is indebted for this information concerning the tomb, to a gentleman and an antiquary, who himself derived it from Dodsworth's Church Notes, in the Bodleian Library, and who honoured me with a communication on the subject. He says, "In the church of Worksop is a monument, with a shield, containing many quarterings over it, but no inscription, with which I remember being puzzled, when three and twenty years ago, in one of my first topographical excursions, I was at Worksop, especially as the arms were not of any of the families in the neighbourhood. I have since ascertained that it is the monument of Frances Clippesby, of a family of rank in Norfolk, or Suffolk, who was one of the ladies in attendance on the Countess of Shrewsbury, and died in 1597."

Dodsworth, who visited Worksop church, March 4, 1634, and consequently made his notes when many memorials, now no longer extant, were in existence, mentions the above, as a "faire monument,\* under the arche, betweene the 2 quyers, with an inscription," which he gives as follows. "In the quyer on a plate:—

Hic Francisca fuit Clippesbie pia virgo cohaeres  
Patris Johannis Norfolkos inter opimos  
Nobilis armigeri, quam diu Maria comissa  
Salopis famulam satis est experta fidelem  
Dum colit obsequio Dominam pietate parentem  
Toto corde Denm caelesti dignior haeres  
Successit regno caesum famulatur et agnum.

Obiit xiiio. die Septemb. Ao. 1597.

under Sir Edward Cecil, at Utrecht, with a stipend of nine shillings per week; and after the peace, was recommended by Anne of Denmark, to the Duke of Brunswick, in whose service he probably continued for the remainder of his life."—*Lodge*, III. 246. "The Lady Eleanor Lascelles," was buried at Worksop, in 1645.

The heiress of Lascelles of Gateford married into the family of Rodes, of Barlborough, by which the line of the family became extinct.

\* Dodsworth MSS. vol. cxi. f. 9. In the Bodleian Manuscript, there is a note, stating, that "The monument was erected for Sir Francis Clippesbye." This is evidently erroneous; as, besides the absence of all other evidence, not only is the shield on the tomb a lozenge, the shape usually appropriated to ladies, but the inscription itself is conclusive on the point.

It may be as well, in this place, to notice, what may be deemed, in a sense, monumental—the benefaction tablets: these, in many places, are an affair of importance, both in number and splendor: here, on the contrary, they consist of a couple of shabby painted boards, hanging at the top of the north aisle, sufficiently out of sight, as well as out of repair, ever to tempt the vanity or the charity of any subsequent donor, for the sake of the record.

*“ Benefactors to the church and poor of the parish of Worksop.*

*“ Impr. William Medley\* gave, by one deed of settlement, the interest of a hundred pound, for ever, in manner following:—*

*“ One-half of the said interest yearly, to be distributed to the most sober and indigent poor, and binding apprentices.*

*“ The third and fourth parts of the other moyetie to the minister of the church, if he preaches.*

*“ One-half of the last fourth part, towards the mending of the highway leading to the church.*

*“ And the other half of the last fourth part to the clerk of the church, if he teaches one poor child or children.—Item. Mrs. Sarah Cole, widow, gave to the poor widows and needful persons of this parish, ye interest of thirty pounds, for ever.*

*“ JOHN GERUAS, JAMES PRESTON, Churchwardens, 1704.”*

*“ SECOND TABLE.*

*“ Item. Richard Hatfield left the poor of this parish the interest of five pounds, for ever.*

*“ Mrs. Rosaman Magson gave twenty pounds, for ever, the interest and parish† of which to be distributed amongst the needful widows follows,† the one-half upon the 29 of July yearly, and every year, for ever.*

*“ James Woodhouse gave £31 10s., the interest and increase of which to be distributed as follows:—£3 4s. a time to the repairing of the highway leading to the church, ye remainder among the sick and needful persons on Good Friday and St. Thomas-day.—Tho. Elliot gave ten shillings pan. for ever, payable out of Robt. Singleton’s house in Bridgegate, to be distributed to thirty poor persons on Good Friday.—Thos. Gervas gave the interest of ten pound, for ever, to be distributed to the poor of this parish upon St. Thomas-day—Improved, for the use of the poor,*

\* William Medley, died 25th Dec. 1633. This name occurs frequently in the Parish Registers during the Elizabethan era, and subsequently.

† Sic. in Orig.

by the care of the trustees, [to] the sum of thirty pounds.—Thomas Mitchel left the poor of the parish the interest of four pound ten shillings, for ever.”

Another small benefaction is recorded in the Parish Register, which, although intended by the donor to continue “for ever,” is already, I suppose, lost. “All posteritie shall know, by this record here enrolled, that Mr. John Smith hath given a certaine annuitie of ten shillings, by the year, for ever, and the same to be paid, for ever, by the heirs of John Elliot, as by the deeds of feofment appeareth, now remaining in the hands of the heires of the.....at Carburton, and of the.....at Workesoppe, which annuitie is to be yearly distributed to xxx poor people of Workesoppe towne and Radford, vpon Good Friday, at the discretion of the minister or the vicar, and of the churchwardens for the time being, and with the knowledge of the heires of Chambers..... and Goodriche, aforesaid. Written by John Goodriche.....now at Workesope, at the request of the said John Smith, and in the presence of Richard Carlill, clarke, the third day of this Marche, 1590, and in the xxxiii yeare of the reigne of Queene Elizabeth. By me,

*John Emmyfe*

Next after the monuments in interest, and sometimes before them in importance, the parish registers claim our attention. There is an affecting impression produced in the mind, by the most cursory perusal of these documents, containing the records of birth, marriage, and mortality, through successive generations, which have grown up, and gone down, in the vicinity. The earliest memorial of this sort, in the vestry chest of Worksop, consists of several large oblong sheets of parchment; and the entries commence so early as the first year of Queen Elizabeth:\* it is entitled, “A Register of Baptisms, Weddings, and Interments. Elizabeth primo:” to which another, but seemingly contemporary hand, has added, “Ano Dmn. mi Sancti Beati Christi. 1553;” in which year six baptisms are noted, and as many the next year. The marriages, during the first twelve years of this reign, appear to have averaged about twelve annually; and the burials a similar average during the same period. From the lapse of time, the nature of the ink, and other causes, the writing of this document is becoming illegible; and thus, names and dates, which must be interesting to curiosity, and which might be important as legal vouchers, are sliding into that oblivion, from which it may not be possible to retrieve them. I should like to recommend here, the plan, so commendably adopted in other places, of preserving a substantially written transcript of their old registers. This record terminates in 1653, when the next volume commences with the regulations under the protectorate.

\* This is early. The keeping of registers had, before the Reformation, been the business of the monks, but at the dissolution it became necessary to make other provision. The ministers of Henry VIII., therefore, ordered, that such records should be kept; but the people, supposing that some tax was intended thereby, and this impression was fomented by persons ill affected to the Reformation; whereupon the king

issued his letter mandatory, ordering, “that the names of all children christened, from hensforth, with ther birth, ther fathers and mothers names, and likewise all marriages, and burials, with the time and date thereof, shulde be registred, from time to time, in a boke, in every parish church, surely and safely, to be kept.”

The solemnization of matrimony, which had hitherto been performed by the clergy, as of religious importance, was, by a convention of the commonwealth, declared a civil contract, and by them put into the hands of the justices of the peace, by an ordinance, passed August, 23, 1653.\* The magistracy of Worksop appears not to have been slow in the execution of this regulation, as appears by the following warrant, copied from the original, still extant:—

“ *Worksoppe, 1653.—County of Notts.*

“ Be it remembered, that, upon a certificate, under the hands of the inhabitants of Worksopp, within the countie aforesaid, shewing that they have elected Benjamin Alexander, clerk, to be their parish register,—I do hereby approve thereof, and do signify, that the said Benjamin Alexander, did, on the twentieth day of October, in the year one thousand six hundred and fifty-three, take his oath, well and truly, to execute the said office, during his continuance therein.

“ (Signed) SAM<sup>L</sup>. BOLLES.”

As a specimen of the registry of marriages under the above act, the following, being the first that occurs, may be given:—“ The intended marriage of John Smith and Martha Crofts, was, on the twenty-ninth of December, the fifth, and the twelfth of January, 1653, according to the act, published in the market-place† of Worksop, in the county of Nottingham; and the said John Smith and Martha Crofts, were married before Samuel Bolles, justice of the peace, on the 19th day of June, 1653.

“ (Signed) SAM. BOLLES.”

Sixty marriages, entered and signed in this manner, follow each other in succession, until the 1st of June, 1658, when the original and simpler mode of registry again recommences. This volume continues to 1770, after which there appears to be an hiatus, as the next begins with 1772, and ends with 1812; after which the books, arranged according to the last act of parliament, contain the entries in the usual form. In 1764, the little vestry, where these documents are deposited, was entered by the window, and the communion-plate, of silver, said to have been worth £150, stolen therefrom: a service, of pewter, was substituted, for £1 2s.

A ponderous ark of oak, bound with iron, and secured by three locks, stands in the chancel: this is the “sure coffer,” which, according to the constitutions and canons ecclesiastical, (canon 70,) was anciently required to be placed in every church and chapel within the realm: originally, it contained the various documents belonging to the church; at present, its contents are, Bishop Jewel’s “Defence of the Apology of the Church of England,” a large folio; three or four volumes, equally ponderous, of the works of John Fox, the martyrologist; and another work, in

\* Neal’s Hist. Puritans, vol. iv. p. 70.

one couple, in August, 1656, was, “according to the act, published at Worksop market-cross.”

† It is expressly stated, that the marriage intention of



three volumes folio, entitled, "A Preservative against Popery, in several select discourses, upon the principal heads of the controversy between Protestants and Papists: Written and published by the most eminent divines of the church of England, chiefly in the reign of King James II., 1738," besides a paper book, with the names of the overseers of the poor, the churchwardens, and the surveyors of the highways, with the passing of their accounts from 1663 to 1745. To these may be added, "The Act for Burying in Woollen," as the item of its purchase calls it in the churchwardens' accounts for 1678, from the 1st of August, in which year it took effect. Has this act ever been repealed? or has it merely become obsolete? In the Parish Register, I find an affidavit, sworn before John Ward, vicar, in 1767, certifying, "that the body of Robt. Johnston, of the said parish, [of Worksop] was not wrapped in, or put into any suit, sheet, or coffin, lined, faced, or covered with any material, contrary to an act of parliament, but what was made of sheeps wool only."

Throsby, noticing the large picture over the communion table, observes, "The altar piece, I can only say, is a representation of Moses and Aaron." I am sorry that my notice must be equally unaccompanied by praise. Where any town has produced an artist of celebrity in this line, the presentation of a scripture picture is a most appropriate compliment to his native place;\* but when the undertaking of such a work is a contract by the yard, and its patronage the moiety of a church rate, it is not surprising that some of our places of worship are so indifferently decorated. The villagers of Handsworth, where the Earl of Shrewsbury had a lodge, entertain a report, that Sir James Thornhill, while engaged at Chatsworth House, used to stroll into the neighbourhood, and amuse himself with painting slight subjects in the village churches; and, moreover, that a picture, still partly visible over their north gallery, was one of these errandries of his pencil. The improbability of this story requires no confirmation, even with those who have not seen the painting; which was, I believe, the work of a person of the name of Staniforth, and the architectural portion of which is tolerably well executed. The fame of the artist, or the painting, during its progress, seems to have reached Worksop at a period when the church was receiving considerable attention: it was therefore resolved to bargain with the painter, for this work, on the best terms. The following items will shew the expense incurred upon this chancel wall:—

" 1721. Charges going to Hansworth, to let the painting of the altar piece,	£0	12	8
" 1721. Paid to Mr. Staniforth for painting it,	-	-	7 10 0
" 1721. Paid to Mr. Machin, for writing the Lord's prayer, creed, and ten			
commandments,	-	-	8 0 0"

Under this picture stands the communion table, which, from its appearance, is probably as old as the age of Elizabeth: it is most substantially made of oak, and curiously carved; but time having given to it a hue displeasing to modern taste, it has been painted marble colour.

\* It may not be improper to notice, in this place, that T. C. Hodland, R.A., who is well known as a landscape painter, is a native of Worksop.

Such accounts of the ecclesiastical patronage and revenues, and other matters connected with the benefice, as I have been able to collect, shall now be presented. King Edward the Sixth, in the sixth year of his reign, September 2, 1547, granted to Henry, bishop of Lincoln,\* the reversion of the rectory of Worksop, and all tythes of corn and hay, &c., in the hamlets of Sloswick, Ratcliff, Radford, Kilton, Renton, Scofton, and Clumber, within the parish of Worksop and Osberton, and all other hamlets within the said parish of Worksop, to the said rectory belonging; and all that yearly rent of £35, reserved, upon the demise, made to William Chastelyn, merchant, of London, to hold to him, the said bishop and his successors, in pure and perpetual alms.

According to ecclesiastical jurisdiction, Worksop is in the diocese of York, and deanery of Retford, within the archdeaconry of Nottingham. The church is dedicated to St. Cuthbert and St. Mary. The rectory remains in charge, and is valued, in the king's books, at £12 4s.† 2d. per ann., as when the prior of Worksop was patron: and is chargeable with £1 4s. 5d. yearly tenths; and to the archbishop, for synodals, 1s. The advowson of the benefice has generally been leased with the right of presenting a vicar.

#### A CATALOGUE OF THE VICARS OF WORKSOP.

Temp. Instit.	Vicarij Eccle'.	Patroni.	Vacat.
		Pr. & Con'tus de Wirksoꝑ	
Id. Aug. 1276.	Dns Alanus de London.	ijdem.	
5 Id. Feb. 1300.	Fr. Adam de Roderham, can'cus de Wyrk-sop.	ijdem.	
4 Kal. Oct. 1324.	Fr. Robt. de Beverlae, can'cus de Wirksoꝑ.	ijdem.	Mort.
14 Kal. Mar. 1328.	Fr. Will. de Hanay, can'cus.	ijdem.	(Resig.)
17 Apr. } 23 July }	1358. Fr. Ric. Ric. de Trent, can'cus, <i>ibid.</i>	ijdem.	(Resig.)
24 Nov. 1390.	Fr. Joh. de Stanlay, can'cus, <i>ibid.</i>	ijdem.	(Resig.)
3 Dec. 1405.	Fr. Tho. Barneby, can'cus.	ijdem.	
	Fr. Walt. Burne, can'cus.	ijdem.	(Resig.)

\* The impropriation of this place (amongst others) was given to the see of Lincoln, in exchange for many manors, conveyed by Bishop Holbeck.—*Wilkie's Cath.* vol. iii. p. 37.

† In Ecton, printed, by mistake, 16s.

Temp. Instit.	Vicarij Eccle'.	Patroni.	Vacat.
		Pr. & Con'tus de Wirksop.	
12 Mar.	1450. Fr. Joh. Howe, can'cus.	ijdem.	(Resig.)
27 Aug.	1452. Fr. Joh. Emlay, can'cus.	ijdem.	
	Fr. Walt. Burne, can'cus.	ijdem.	Mort.
15 Mar.	1472. Fr. Tho. Ingill, cap.	ijdem.	Mort.
18 Mar.	1486. Dns Tho. Scott, pr.	ijdem.	Mort.
24 Sep.	1509. Fr. Joh. Johnson, can'cus.	ijdem.	(Resig.)
6 May	1544. Dns Joh. Thornley, pr.	Hen. Rex.	Mort.
Ult. May	1577. Joh. Goodricke, cl.	Assignati Rici Whalley, ar.	Cession.
19 Junij.	1601. Ric. Barnard, cl.	Ric Walley, ar.	Cession.
16 Feb.	1613. Olyver Bray, cl.	idem.	Mort.
19 Apr.	1615. Will. Carte, cl., M.A.	idem.	Cession.
22 May	1628. Sam. Smyth, cl., B.A.	Fr. Rhodes, ar. h. v. p.	
	Benjamin Alexander.		
15 Sep.	1662. Walt. Bernard, cl.	Guardianus, Frci Rhodes, Bart.	Mort.
19 Mar.	1673. Sam. Buckingham, cl., M.A.	Guil. Epis. Linc.	
	1685. Thomas Calton.		
	1698. Jacob Calton.	Sir Jn. Rhodes, Bart.	
	1718. John Cook.	Thos. Wentworth, Esq.	
	1752.	Marq. of Rockingham.	
	1758. John Ward, A.M.	idem.	
	1778. Hon. Philip Howard.		
	1783. ——— Carter.	Earl Fitzwilliam.	
May	1792. Thomas Stacey.	Duke of Norfolk.	

This list of vicars commences early; and the particulars, from 1276 to 1673, are extracted from Torre's MS. catalogue, in the custody of the dean and chapter of York. Most of the incumbents, previous to the Reformation, were, it will be perceived, canons of Worksop. Alan de London, afterwards became prior of his house. John Stanley, is probably the same who resigned the vicarage of Sheffield, 1390. And John Howe seems to have died vicar of the same place.

According to a record of testamentary burials in the diocese of York, John Thornley, vicar of Worksoppe, dying intestate, 10 Decem. A. D. 1576, administration of his goods was then taken.

Oliver Bray, late vicar of Wyrksop, dying intestate, 19 Jan. A. D. 1614, administration of his goods was granted to Edm. Bray, his son.

William Carte, was presented by the Earl of Pembroke, to the valuable rectory of Handsworth, in 1627, where he became eminent for his ministerial talents; but these were troublous times,\* and he became involved in some unpleasant differences, with Sherland Adams, the loyal and litigious rector of Treton: the spirit of the pamphleteering on this occasion is admirably displayed by Mr. Hunter, and from it we learn something of the turbulence of the period, and the labours of this divine, who "died in his bed; and ended his days in a most heavenly manner, not ceasing most heavenly exhortation."† Mr. Carte was married at Worksop, May 11, 1615, to Catharine Hardstaffe, by whom he had five children, all christened at Worksop, viz. William, May 5th, 1616; Francis, March 21, 1617; John, February 13, 1619; Mary, February 10, 1621; Elizabeth, February 26, 1624. John studied divinity, and in 1643, succeeded his father in the rectory of Handsworth, from which living he was ejected in 1662. Calamy calls him an "eminent scholar and great divine:" he continued to reside in the parish where he had laboured till his death, which took place on the 8th of September, 1684. He was buried in the grave of his father, in Handsworth churchyard, where inscriptions to their memories still remain.

"Samuel Smith, minister of God's word, at Worksop, and Ellen Galloway, of Southwell, widow," were married at Worksop, July 28, 1637.‡

"Benjamin Alexander, minister of God's word," was likewise "married at Worksop, Nov. 15, 1651." This entry in the parish register, with his subsequent institution as registrar, noticed before, are my only authority for introducing this name into the hiatus in Torre's list.

\* The sequestrations during the protectorate, and the act of uniformity, passed after the restoration, appear not to have produced any distractions here, as neither Walker, in his *Sufferings of the Clergy*, nor Calamy, in his *Nonconformist's Memorial*, mention the place. It is indeed remarkable, that both the one and the other of the above records contains but few names from this county; and not less so, as, I believe, Fuller observes, that Nottinghamshire has not witnessed a

martyrdom, either before or during the Marian persecution, which has been attributed to the mild temper of Nicholas Heath, Archbishop of York, and diocesan thereof. Crammer, however, although he suffered not so, yet was he of this county, being a native of Aslacton.

† Hallamshire, p. 285.

‡ Par. Reg.

“ Walter Bernard, clerke, vicar, a faithful and diligent preacher of God's word, to this parish, by the space of 17 years, was buried in the chancel of this church, Dec. 28, 1678.”\*

In conjunction with Samuel Buckingham's incumbency, the parish register contains the following memorandum :—“ That on the 28 day of March, A. D. 1683, at Worksopp Manor-house, his Grace Henry, Lord Duke of Norfolk, did p'mise, that I, Samuel Buckingham, vicar of Worksopp, should have and hold that part of the Abbey gatehouse, that is now in my possession, paying twopence pr annum, as an acknowledgment of his grace's right in the said gatehouse; and I did p'mise to pay to his grace, twopence pr annum as aford. during my life. This was agreed in the presence of my Lrd,

“ THOMAS HOWARD.”

This convenience was continued to successive vicars on the same terms, till the removal of the vicar's dwelling rendered it no longer necessary.

Thomas Calton occurs as a signaturist of the register, Aug. 7, 1688. Jacob Calton was buried, Sep. 29, 1718.

“ Parson Ward,” as he is called by the old folks who remember him, eked out the very moderate profits of his benefice, by boarding and educating a number of West India children, whose parents chose to bless them with the advantages of English tuition.

The honourable and reverend Philip Howard, was of the Suffolk branch of the family, and died rector of Handsworth in 1801.

The Rev. Thomas Stacey, the present incumbent, is descended from an ancient and respectable family, long seated at Cinderhill, and Ballifield-hall, in the parish of Handsworth, where Mr. Stacey was born; after his induction to this living, he married Miss Outram, of Worksop, who died January 1st, 1810, leaving one son, whose nativity coincides with the era of his mother's death.

The impropriation, at present, is vested in the Duke of Portland, with whom the last lease, granted 25th February, 1801, on the contingency of three lives, expires; and, by which issue, his grace, the Duke of Norfolk becomes the patron and lay lord, having purchased the rectory of the Bishop of Lincoln, who was empowered, by virtue of an act of parliament, to alienate the same for the payment of land-tax.

The vicarial emolument arises from the small tythes which are commuted into a reasonable

modus, according to the relative value of tythable property throughout the parish;\* the surplice fees,+ Easter dues, and the parsonage house and glebe, of which a more exact specification may be found below, in the copy of the draught of a terrier, drawn up and signed by the vicar, and which was obligingly allowed by him to the writer of these pages.

The sustentation of the church belongs to the parish; but all repairs of the chancel to the rector, who claims the privilege of burying therein, without fee, any member of his family who may die during his patronage. This exemption is provided for, as follows, in the last lease of the benefice, according to an extract before me.—“AND FURTHER, that he, the said William Henry Cavendish, Duke of Portland, his heirs and assigns, shall, and will permit and suffer the vicar of Worksop, for the time being, to have, receive, and take to his own proper use and benefit, all profits and advantages, sum and sums of money which hereafter shall, or may arise, or become due, or payable for, or by reason of the breaking up of the ground in the chancel of the parish church of Worksop, otherwise Wyrksop aforesaid, for the interment or burying of any person or persons there during the said term, excepting only of the tenant or tenants of the rectory and premises aforesaid, and their families, without any account to be made to him the said W. H. C., Duke of Portland, his heirs or assigns for the same.”

There is a small sum annually paid by this and every other church in the county, to the collegiate church of Southwell, denominated a pentecostal offering, said, by Thoroton, to be of uncertain origin;† and, on one occasion, it appears that the churchwardens either refused or neglected to answer the apparitor's demand, and suffered a suit to be moved against them, the proceedings of which were stayed by the payment of 1d., as an acknowledgment by the defendants.

\* In 1781, the *modus* was thus estimated:—“2 pence for a milch cow, 1 penny a swarm of bees, 1 penny an ancient garden,  $\frac{1}{2}$  penny smoke, 1 penny a stroper, 2 pence for a fole, 2 pence for each communicant at Easter.”—*Terrier*.

† The following are the fees paid at the church:—

	Vicar.		Clerk.		Sexton.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Weddings,	3	6	-	1	6	-
Christenings,	0	0	-	0	0	-
Churchings,	1	0	-	0	0	-
Tolling a bell,	0	0	-	0	0	-
Making a grave,	0	0	-	0	0	-
Burials,	0	8	-	0	6	-

‡ By a bull of Pope Alexander III., about 1180, among his grants and confirmations to the canons of the church of St. Mary's, at Southwell, granted to them, as was of long custom observed, “that both the clergy and laity of the county of

Nottingham, should, at the Feast of Pentecost, come to their church, with solemn procession; and that every year, according to the old and rational usage of that church, a synod should there be celebrated, and that thither the chrism should be brought, by the deans of the county, from the church of York, to be by them distributed through the other churches.”—*Regist. Album. de Southwell*.

This pentecostal procession seems to have produced warm disputes between the churches of York and Southwell, which were settled by the interference of Innocent III. in favour of Southwell. This synod continued to be holden till within the last century, when it was abolished by the fiat of Drummond, Archbishop of York.—*Dickenson's Southwell*, vol. i. p. 121. The offerings originally made at these visitations, are still collected in the county; of which the tenth part is allotted to the sacrista prebend, and the remainder is equally divided between the prebend of Normanton, and the support of the commons of the resident canons. The sum demanded of Worksop is three shillings.

I shall conclude this brief account of the state and affairs of the church, with a copy of the terrier mentioned above.

“ There is a very good vicarage-house, it is new, built of bricks, and covered with tiles, and consists of four rooms on the ground-floor, four chambers over them, and a closet. The floors are of deal or fir-wood, except the kitchen and passage, which are of lime-stone. There is a good arched cellar under the dining-room and part of the passage: adjoining to the house is a good brewhouse, paved with bricks, and over it a chamber, the floor of which is of fir wood; there are two stair-cases, which are made of oak.

“ The churchyard is fenced, on the north by the church, a wall and a ruin; on the east and west, it is walled; on the south side it is fenced by a low wall and iron pallisade.\*

“ The glebe consists of pond-yard, in which stands the vicarage-house, one acre, two roods, and thirty-eight perches; pond-yard, near Worksop-church, one acre three roods, and thirty-three perches; and part of a croft, seventeen perches.†

“ By an act passed, 43d Geo. III., in the year 1803, for dividing, allotting, and enclosing the several commons and waste grounds within the parish of Worksop, the commissioners were directed to fix an annual corn rent in lieu of vicarial tythes, which corn rent the said commissioners have fixed, viz.: for Worksop and Radford, a corn-rent for 3993 acres, 2 roods, and 39 perches; for Osberton, a corn rent for 1591 acres, 2 roods, and 11 perches; for Rayton, a corn rent for 748 acres, 3 roods, and 26 perches; for Scofton, a corn rent for 1499 acres, 3 roods, 95 perches; for Clumber-park, a corn-rent for 2038 acres, 3 roods, 39 perches; for Hardwick-grange, for 927 acres, 1 rood, and 23 perches; the corn rent for Hardwick is at present undivided.

\* This was anciently the site of the vicarage house and offices, which have been removed within the last thirty years, on the erection of the very superior dwelling in Potter Street. The following particulars of the old vicarial residence are from a terrier, signed by Rev. Philip Howard, and by him delivered in at the archbishop's visitation at Retford, June 21, 1781:—“ The vicarage house contains three bays of buildings; is situated north and south; that end towards the west joins to the old priory gateway; that end towards the east is open to the road that leads to the church; it is built with stone, brick, lath, and plaster, variously interspersed; is covered with slate, and part with thatch. This building contains, below stairs, five rooms, and a pantry: a parlour, floored with deal, towards the north it is wainscotted chair high, with deal; all the rest of the room is wall, or lath and plaster, and not ceiled: a hall, floored with brick, white walls or plaster, and ceiled, a kitchen, floored with stone and brick; the walls are stone, or lath and plaster, and not ceiled: a washhouse, or brewhouse, floored with stone, not ceiled; the walls stone and

brick on the north, and lath and plaster on the south: a study, floored with brick; the walls are stone, or lath and plaster, whitewashed, and not ceiled: a pantry, floored with stone, whitewashed, and ceiled: above stairs are six bed-rooms, four of which have plaster floors, one deal, and one oak; five are ceiled, one open to the roof, all white walls. Outhouses. In the church-yard stands the barn, the roof of which, consisting of old thatch, having lately fallen in, is not yet rebuilt, by reason of the great charge the present incumbent hath been at in repairs, and rebuilding part of the dwelling-house: also a stable, with two stalls, built with stone, and covered with thatch, thirteen feet long, and ten feet wide: a hen-house, built with stone, and covered with tiles, thirteen feet long, and ten feet wide, or thereabouts.”

† In the Terrier of 1781, the only description of glebe, exclusive of the church-yard, is an orchard, containing 2 roods 26 perches.

“ As required by the above act of parliament, schedules or descriptions of each and every part of the messuages, commons, waste grounds, ancient enclosures, lands, and hereditaments, out of which the corn rents or sums of money are issuing and payable, are annexed to the award of the said commissioners for the Worksop enclosure, which is dated, and was executed on the 2d day of August, 1817; and the schedules of the corn rents have been delivered to the vicar, and also, so much of them as relate to the lands and estates of the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of Newcastle, and the trustees of F. F. Foljambe, Esq. deceased.

“ There are two yearly payments out of the great tythes of Worksop, of £12, payable every Ladyday; one of £6 13s. 4d. payable every Michaelmas-day; £10 per annum is paid to the vicar for having given up his right to the presentation of Shireoaks chapel, in the parish of Worksop: this payment was fixed by an act of parliament, passed on August 1, 1807, (47 Geo. III.)

“ Easter dues are paid to the vicar.

“ The vicar receives £5 per annum from Shireoaks, and £5 per annum from Worksop Manor.

“ Benefactions. Mr. William Medley, in his deed of settlement, ordered two sermons to be preached, the one on St. Thomas's day, the other on Good Friday, for which the vicar receives, on each of these days, 30 shillings—the clerk, 10 shillings.”

[Here follows an inventory of the contents of the chancel, vestry, and church chest, noticed before.]

“ The clerk's wages are gathered at Easter by custom, from house to house.

“ The sexton's wages arise from ringing passing-bells, digging graves, tolling corpses to the church; they are both appointed by the vicar. The vicar also appoints one churchwarden.

“ (Signed) THOMAS STACYE, VICAR.”





## CHAPTER V.

### The Howards—Lords of Warkop—Modern History—Present State of the Town.

#### Howard.

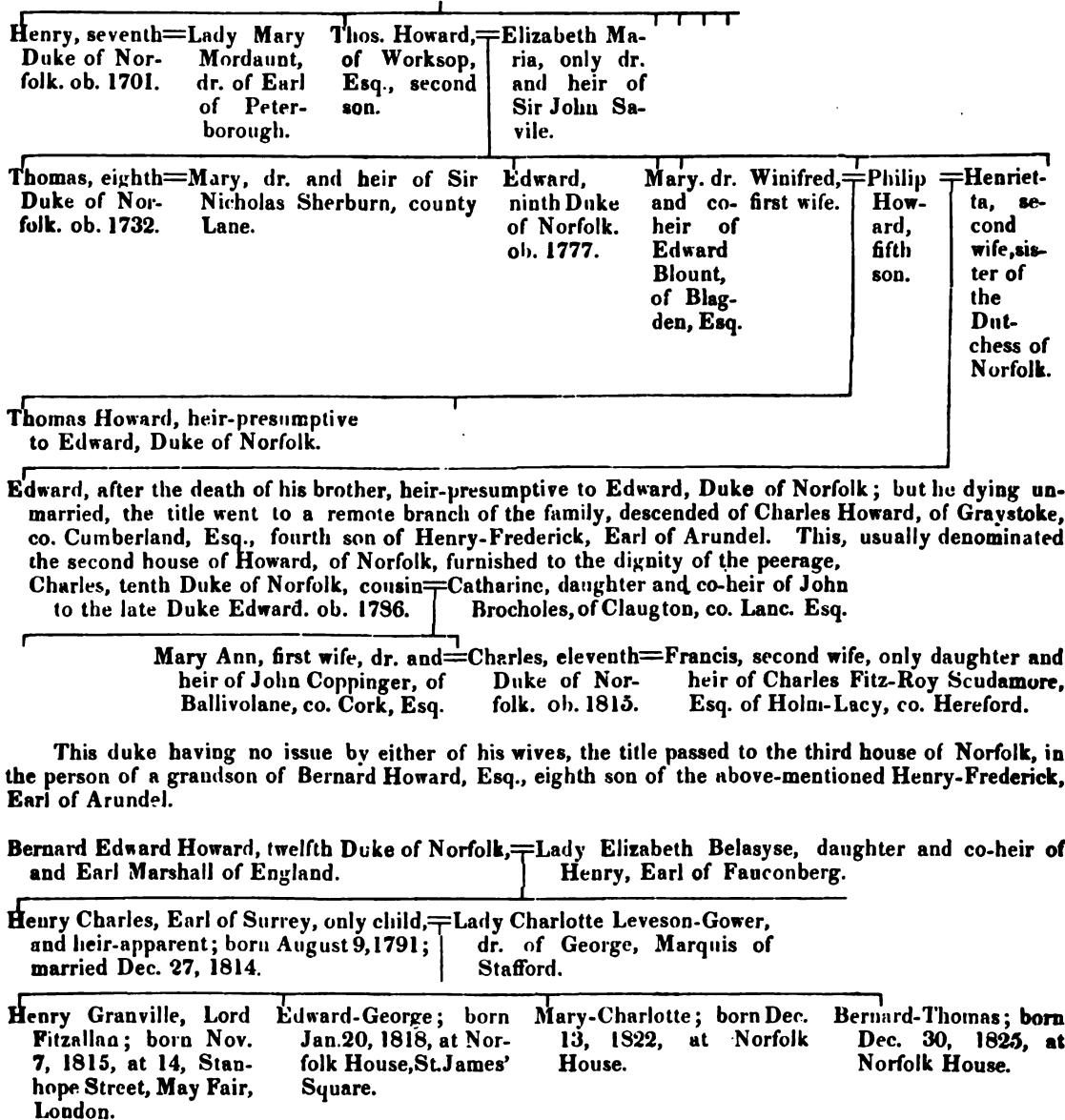
**ARMS.**—Four grand quarters, 1. HOWARD. Gules on a bend between 6 cross-crosslets fitchee argent, an inescutcheon or charged with a demi-lion rampant, pierced through the mouth with an arrow, within a double tressure flossee counterflossee gules. 2. PLANTAGENET. Gules 3 lions passant guardant in pale or, a label of 3 points argent. 3. WARREN. Checkie or and azure. 4. MOWBRAY. Gules a lion rampant argent. Behind the whole two marshal's staves in saltier or, gorged with a ducal coronet argent.

**CREST.**—On a chapeau gules turned up ermine a lion statant guardant or, gorged with a ducal coronet argent. **SUPPORTERS.**—On the dexter side a lion argent, and on the sinister a horse of the same holding a slip of oak fructed proper. **MOTTO.**—Sola virtus invicta.

Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, Surrey, and Norfolk; descended, in the seventh degree, from John Howard, created Duke of Norfolk, anno 1483.	Lady Alethea Talbot, youngest dr. of Gilbert Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury. ob. 24 May, 1654.
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Henry Frederick, Earl of Arundel.	Lady Elizabeth Stuart, dr. of the Duke of Lenox.
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Thomas, fifth Duke of Norfolk. ob. 1677.	Lady Ann Somerset, first wife.	Henry, sixth Duke of Norfolk. ob. 1684.	Jane Bickerton, second wife.
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The above brief sketch of the direct descent of the dukedom of Norfolk, through the illus-  
trious house of Howard,\* is chiefly abstracted from Mr. Hunter's ample and elaborate pedigree of the

\* Old Fuller has a curious notice about the etymology of  
this surname. Speaking of John Howard Miles, the historian  
says, "He was son to Sir Robert Howard, and soon after was

created a baron by Edward IV. and Duke of Northfolk, by  
King Rich. III., as kinsman, and one of the heirs of Anne,  
Dutchess of York and Northfolk, whose mother was one of

lords of Hallamshire: to the rich store of information therewith connected, the reader is referred, who may have curiosity on the subject.

On the demise of Edward, the eighth Earl of Shrewsbury, without issue, on the 8th of February, 1617, the title went to a distant branch of the family; while the largest share of the family inheritance, together with the ancient baronies, descended to three surviving daughters of Gilbert, the seventh earl. "LADY ALETHEA TALBOT," says Mr. Hunter, "was the earl's youngest daughter. Queen Elizabeth was her godmother; and gave her a name, till then unknown to the baptismal vocabulary of England, as Vincent informs us, 'out of her majestie's true consideration and judgment of that worthy family, which was ever true to the state,—*Αληθεια*, signifying, in our English, veritie or truth.' I have somewhere read, that offence was taken at the name, as savouring too strongly of heathenism. She came not behind her sisters in the splendour of her alliance, having for her husband Thomas Howard,\* Earl of Arundel and Surrey, Earl Marshall of England, the only son of Philip, Earl of Arundel, who died in prison in the reign of Elizabeth, and grandson of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, who fell a sacrifice to the jealousy of Elizabeth respecting Mary, Queen of Scots."†

By an indenture of four parts, bearing date 22d May, anno 1627, it was covenanted, between

the daughters of Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Northfolk. Soon after he lost his life in his quarrel, who gave his honour in Bosworth Field.

"From him descended the noble and numerous family of the Howards, of whom I told four earls and two barons sitting in the last parliament of King Charles. I have nothing else for the present to observe of this name, save that a great antiquary, (Verstegan, 'of decayed intelligence,') will have it originally to be HOLD-WARD, (L and D being omitted for the easier pronunciation,) which signifieth the keeper of any castle, hold, or trust, committed unto them, wherein they have well answered unto their name. Did not Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey, well hold his ward by land, when in the reign of King Hen. VIII. he conquered the Scots in Flodden Field, and took James IV., their king, prisoner? And did not Charles Howard, (afterwards Earl of Nottingham,) hold his ward by sea, in 88, when the Armada was defeated?"—*Worthies. Barkshire.*

\* Clarendon, who was a master at hitting off a character, has depicted with his nervous pen, a very hard featured portraiture of this illustrious nobleman. Against the fidelity of this draught, several subsequent authors have found good reasons for recording their protests: amongst the rest, the honourable Charles Howard, Esq. (afterwards tenth Duke of Norfolk,) rebuts the calumny of the historian of the rebellion, and defends his relative "on account of his virtue, his unblemished honour, clear judgment, and great learning." To Clarendon's hints about the doubtfulness of the earl's religious character,

Mr. Howard opposed the testimony of his last will; which, as far as such a document can be permitted to depose, is strong evidence in favour of the piety of his ancestor.

The noble historian likewise gives, as a match-piece, no doubt, and for the sake of contrast, a masterly sketch of the character of Arundel's brother-in-law, the Earl of Pembroke. The lady of the latter, (if the noble historian's remark has not a more recondite reference than merely to her temper,) seems to have resembled her mother and grandmother, in being a source of domestic unhappiness to her husband; for, speaking of the earl's home delights, "he was," says Clarendon, "therein most unhappy, for he paid much too dear for his wife's fortune, by taking her person into the bargain."—*Hist. Rebellion*, Vol. I. p. 56.

† Philip, Earl of Arundel, left on the wall of the room in the tower, where he died, a testimony declarative of the satisfaction with which he suffered undeservedly; and Joseph Brown, in his dedication of the trial of this Thomas, to his namesake, the eighth duke, observes:—"I had not presumed to have laid this at your grace's feet, but that I have heard your grandfather and uncle glory in the sufferings of their great ancestor, and vindicate his memory; and, I hope, my Lord, your grace will excuse this from one who is proud his father had the honour to serve three Dukes of Norfolk, and also your truly noble father, particularly in obtaining the grant of the Manor of Worksop from your grandfather, which is at present your grace's happy retirement."—*Trial of T. Duke of Norfolk*, 8vo. 1706.

the three co-heiresses, and their lords, of the first, second, and third parts, and Sir Edward Leech and John Dix, of the fourth part, that the three former parties should levy a fine to the two latter, and the heirs of Leech, of certain property therein specified; including, *inter alia*, the manor and park of Worksop, and all privileges happening or renewing in the towns, parishes, hamlets, and fields, (amongst others) "in Worksoppe, and the neither towne of Worksoppe, Gateford, Gilton-wells, Woodsets, Harworth, Shireoaks, Kilton, Ratcliffe, Steetley, Darfold, and the Lathes, and in Harworth, in the county of Nottingham, to the use of the Earl of Pembroke, and his lady, for their lives, and the longer liver of them, with several remainders over; remainder to Henry, Lord Maltravers, for life; remainder to Thomas Howard, Esquire, for life; remainder to the first son of the said Thomas, and the heirs-male of his body; with like remainder to every other son of the said Thomas, and their heirs-male, successively; remainder to the younger sons in succession of the said Lord Maltravers, father to the said Thomas, and the heirs-male of the body of every such sons successively, with several remainders over; remainder to the heirs of Alethea, Countess of Arundel, in fee: which fine was accordingly levied in Trinity term, 3 Charles I."\*

The reader of English history is well aware, that its most material and important feature, during the former half of the seventeenth century, consists of the details of those civil wars, between the king and his parliament, which so unhappily distracted this country, and which, after having effected the annihilation of the royal prerogative, and the execution of the sovereign, terminated with an interregnum of five years, by the death of Oliver Cromwell, who had been constituted Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England. As the operations of this calamitous period affected the kingdom from one side to the other, the events connected therewith have entered with no less preponderance of interest into the details of local, than the summaries of general history: indeed, so fruitful was the period in memoirs, diaries, or other memorandums, written by royalists or cavaliers, that few places are to be found, which have not had an annalist of one or other of these descriptions. Worksop, however, so far as I know, is one exception, nor does it appear that the dæmon of discord inflicted any signal evil upon this little town:† but as the footprints of

\* Hallamshire, p. 99.

† The inhabitants of Worksop, appear at this time, to have been taken up with the report of a marvellous thing alleged to have happened at an adjacent village, namely, the death, revivification, and prophecy, of a female, at Carlton. In 1642, a pamphlet of eight pages, was published with the following title:—"The Wonderfull Works of God, declared by a strange Prophecy of a Muid, that lately lived neere Worsop, in Nottinghamshire; who dyed the 16th of November last, and being dead the sprice of twenty houres, did arise againe, and lived five dayes, in which time she spoke to this effect:—1. What judgment shall befall this kingdom for the sinne of pride. 2. What desolations, warres, faeces, and sorrowes, shall befall and seize upon the most people of the world. 3. What divers strange signes and visions that shall be seene. 4. All which shall shortly come to pass, to

foretell that the end of the world is at hand. And having spoken these, and many other things, to the great astonishment of all that heard her, shee departed this life, November, 21, 1641."—As the pamphlet is scarce, and the story curious, the whole, though somewhat long, is given for the amusement of the reader.

"In November last, there was a marriage solemnized at Carlton, two miles distant from Worsop, in Nottinghamshire, between one James Turner, an honest townesman, and one Margaret Holbeck, the daughter of Thomas Holbeck, of Blich, deceased: this James had been servant and clerke to the right worshipfull Sir Francis Thorny the time of twelve years, who was, by his master, and sundry other persons of good calling, brought to the church, and, at their returne, were conducted to his master's house againe, who had prepared for him and his guests a sufficient feast, at his owne cost and charges; and al-

his progress are abundant in this county, the following sketch of the movements of the king, as connected with the war, may not be uninteresting:—

As before intimated, when mentioning the journey of Charles to London, the county of Nottingham became a principal scene of the sufferings and migrations of that unfortunate monarch.

though this James was but a husbandman's sonne, yet was hee beloved of the whole inhabitants, and that of the chiefest sort; thus was this feast kept in good order, with great love and quietnesse, mixing with their meat honest mirth, well liked of all persons there present at the same feast.

"The next day a young maid of the age of 16 yeares, being sister to the bridegroom, came to the wedding-house to her brother, bringing with her the daughter of one Simon Francklin, of Worsop, both which after they had seene the house, and in what order things stood, were desirous to see the daughter of the right worshipful Sir Francis Thorney, whose name was Mrs. Anne, who, being in her chamber, they went to visit, and doing their duties, they demanded how she did, shee answered, indifferent well, then the 2 maids sate down by her, where they conferr'd of many things, and especially as concerning their attire, and apparrell. The bridegroom before specified had made his sister a silke upper body with which she had dressed her selfe as handsomely as she could for that day. The gentlewoman seeing it, began to flook at her, saying, can thy father cloath thee thus and seeme so poore. Alas, Mrs. (quoth the maiden,) hitherto my poore father hath alwaies to his power apparelled me, but this that you see my brother hath bestowed on me, to doe him honesty at his marriage, God knowes who shall weare it out, though we be poore in goods, I hope God will make us rich in spirit, and so held her peace, departing for a cake, and wine, wherewith they made merry, soon after the other maid which came with her, being well apparelled, and somewhat vaine glorious, said that her mother gave her all things that she could get, but her father was so hard, shee might not weare that she had, but to hiee it from him, then the gentlewoman said, my father biddeth mee weare what I will, and thinks nothing too good for me, and began to shew them, curious wrought hadkirchers, and the like, which caused admiration, the poore country maid that knew no pride, nor had any such attire to boast of, held her peace, accounting herselfe with her poverty as acceptable before God as the richest and finest of them, saying inwardly to herselfe, God is a jealous God, and hateth pride, he punisheth the unrighteous, he comforteth the poore which have no delight therein, and maintaineth them that are continually bent to the service of him.

"After that all had talked their pleasures, to their contentment, every one severally tooke their leave one of another, and after a while departed to the houses of their parents; the 3 day after this marriage was solemnised, all the joy was turned into heavinesse for the death of two of the maids before mentioned,

namely, the daughter of the gentleman, and the sister of the bride-groom, who dyed both in one afternoone.

"This sudden death brought great terrour and feare unto their parents, insomuch that some thought them to be poysoned, and others give forth their judgments according to their fancies.

"The next day, after preparation was made for their burials, Mr. Faber, parson of that village, would have had them both buried in one grave, but the gentleman would not, but great lamentation there was of both sides for the loss of their daughters. Now, when the mother of this poore maid vnderstood, that her neighbours were in hand to wind her up, and to send her to the earth, came unto them and desired that shee might once more see her daughter, which they granted, so they went altogether to the dead corps, which had bene layd by the full space of twenty houres, and the mother lifted up the sheet and sighed, purposing then to take her last farewell of her daughter, but contrary to her expectation, and of all the beholders, her daughter, even as one awaking from a slumber, raised up herselfe, and with a mild and cheerfull countenance, spoke unto her mother as followeth:—

"My most deare mother, why have you sinned so sore against God; you have made me sorrowfull many times, but bee you content, God hath forgiven all, for I am sent as a messenger unto you, and within five dayes I shall returne againe to the place I came from, where I shall live in all peace, and then they fetched her clothes, which she put on, and then demanded meat.

"This sudden sight amazed the beholders, for they looked for some other meaning in it, but whereas this maid before was seldome seene to be merry, they now perceived her more pleasantly disposed, so that the apparant shew of her jesture was wonderfull, then meate was brought, and shee did eate in all mens' sight, digesting it naturally.

"Divers of the chiefe neighbours therabouts came to see this strange event where, after many speeches by them uttered, the maid required silence, and to them all she said,—"

"Good neighbours and friends, wonder not that I have been a short time from you, but be thankfull to God that hee hath certified you by sundry signes how the end of the world is at hand, and the day of rest comming to rejoyce us, our charge shall be taken away, and our travell shall have an end.

From "A List of His Majestie's Marches and Removes," given in the *Collectanea Curiosa*, vol. ii. p. 427, *et infra*, the following places and dates are selected:—His Majesty was at *Newark*, on his way northward, March 17, 1641. Next year, in what the writer calls the "Lincoln journey," he went from *Doncaster* to *Newark* again, July 13, 1642: 21st of the same month, to *Nottingham*. August 16th, to *Nottingham* again: 23d of the same month, to *Nottingham*, where he set up the

Let us make our selves ready against the Sabbath of our Saviour, the true Sonne of God. Let us now, with pure hearts prepare to meet the heavenly bridegroom, that with Him we may enter into his everlasting kingdome, where we shall enjoy eternal life.'

"This Mr. Faber, parson of the village, commanded of her where she had bin, to whom she answered, I was overtaken neare the bridge of the brooke, by a comely old man, who saluted me, saying, daughter, whither wilt thou, is thy father at home. I answered, yea; then said he to me, come, my loving daughter, I must needs talke with thee, and tell thee that which yet is hidden from thee, for great effects dependeth thereupon, and be not afraid, let the grace of God suffice thee, and look that thou conceale not my words, but reveale them to others: tell what I shew you, unto old and young.

"So we came to a faire and costly fort, no prince's court like it, where we were let in, in which place we saw many bright angells, shining like the sun, all singing melodiously with clear voices, Holy, holy, holy, is our Lord God of Sabbath.

"The old man wished me to depart with him to the place where he overtook me, I became very pensive when I thought of the worthinesse of the place where I had bin, but the old man willed me to rest contented, for the short time shall quickly haue an end, and within 5 dayes thou shalt be brought againe into this place, he willed me beside, to manifest unto the penitent, the mercies of God, and to say unto the world, that he is bent to wrath, chiefly to those that despise, and give no credit to his examples, which he miraculously hath shewed to his people, these are but warnings sent us to mollifie our hard hearts, and to admonish us from that detestable pride, which is here maintained, because before God, you shall find it damnable.

"O people, full of contempt, despising one another, some for riches, some for beauty, others for wisdom, some for one thing, some for another, whereas, before God, we are all alike with Him, poore and rich, notwithstanding, therefore, repent, repent you of your sins, least He goe forward with his sore wrath and indignation, He moderates his justice with his mercie, if He find but a small number penitent for their sinnes, but if you doe not amend and turne to God, He will forthwith send you a generall alteration, and such a one, as not onely men, but birds of the aire, and all liuing creatures shall tremble at his wrath; warres shall greatly grieue the earth, and shall destroy countries, and many people, men shall be most grie-

vously chased from their houses, and miserably murdered, and then God will take his owne, that have turned unto Him, not suffering them to see this misery, but those that liue after shall truly feele the wrath of God, so that those that remaine in the third yeare, shall well say where have you bin, you are not yet destroid.

"After this great and terrible trouble, there shall great peace arise, and the people shall live in great tranquillity, there shall be want of learned men, and good rulers, wherefore, good people let this terrifie your pride, being even the puddle of sinne and the roote of iniquitie.

"The very cloathes which Mrs. Anne did weare for her pride, shall become loathsome to all people, whereby none shall be able to weare them, but shall become unnecessary to all men, this speech twice spoken was markt and found to be true, by reason of an evill sauour about them.

"In the meane time, many learned men, both divines and others, came to conferre and talke with her concerning spirituall matters, which she was glad of, to whom she gaue hearty thanks, signifying to them that the 5 day was come wherein she should be taken from the world, but before she departed, she was desirous to receive the sacrament, and Christian communion of the Church of England, (exhorting them to beware of the whore of Babylon,) which Mr. Faber administered unto her, after which she began to utter such godly reasons, that it made all the beholders astonished, then she desired that she might lye downe in her bed, but desired that the company might not depart, but come and pray with her, and then she began with the Lord's Prayer; and after they had prayed the space of a quarter of an houre, to all their thinking she fell asleepe, and never after stirred, but died.—FINIS."

Perhaps admitting the preceding account to be substantially true, it would not be very difficult to account for all the phenomena, without the implication of supernatural agency.

I must, however, confess, that the whole of this marvellous relation, is of a somewhat apocryphal character: against the explicitness of names, dates, and places, and the evident contempority of the pamphlet, has to be opposed the absence of printer's name and place of abode. This suspicious omission induced me, when last at Worksop, to request the Rector of Carlton, to examine the register of that place, to ascertain whether the entry of the burial of any person named Turner,

royal standard. 23d October, happened the great fight of Edgehill, where this standard was lost and retaken, and the king remained master of the field. During the conflicting year, 1644, the war was carried to another part of the kingdom. About the middle of next year, the fatal tide again flowed towards this county; and on Friday, 15th August, 1645, the king came to *Welbeck*, which the Marquis of Newcastle had garrisoned for the royal party: after going a little farther northward, his majesty returned by *Retford*, and on the 21st came to *Newark*. Saturday, October 4th, the king came again to *Newark*, where he staid nine days; and Sunday, the 12th, went to *Tuxford*, whence he returned on Monday, the 13th, to *Welbeck*, where he had "dinner in the field." It was probably at this time, that an affray took place, the following account of which is preserved in the Parish Register of Thorp Salvin:—

" There were five men buried in the beginning of October, being slayne in the fight on Thorpe More, between the garrison of *Welbeck* on the king's part, and Captain Rodes on the parliament part. A. D. 1645.

" The manner of which scremige was thus: A partie of *Welbeck* horse were drawn out, under the command of John Jametz, major to Colonel Fretwell, [Freschville of Stavely] to descrie a partie of the parliament's, which had given an alarm to the *Welbeckians* at *WORKSOP*, where they had killed two\* of the king's partie in the Hollings on the More, meeting with the forlorn hope of the enemies, who flew into their bodye, commanded by Captain Rodes, of Steetly, which was divided into three companies, to the number of two hundred. Jametz had advanced but with eighteen men, and his forlorn hope, being some threescore, lyinge. The parliamenters pursued, killed five men, and took fortie, the most of which they murdered after quarter was given: one of them escaped, whose name was Thomas Battersbie, whose hand they cut off, which was buried in the church-yard of Thorpe Salvin, in the West Riding in the county of York."† To return to our *Iter Carolinum*—

On Tuesday, October 14th, 1645, the king came to *Newark*—" no dinner"; he continued

occurs about the period in question. I received, in reply, the following note:—

" Sir,—No person named Turner was buried in this parish during the year 1641; nor can I find the name in any of the years immediately before or after that date.

" I am, your obedient servant,

" R. P. GOODENOUGH.

" *CARLTON RECTORY*, April 8, 1826.

" To Mr. Holland."

Wishing to be still further satisfied, I again applied to be informed, whether the register contained any record of a marriage connected with the names mentioned in the narrative, when I was favoured with this additional information:—

" Mr. Goodenough has again looked into the register, and regrets very much that he cannot give any information to Mr. Holland, upon the curious subject which he is wishing to investigate, nor can he find any thing alluding to it, or the entry of the names of the persons.

" *CARLTON*, April 13, 1826.

" To Mr. Holland."

\* There is an entry in the Register of *Worksop*, of the burial of two soldiers there, on the 11th of September, 1645; but whether slain in any skirmish, or otherwise, does not appear.

† *Antiquarian Repertory*, vol. iv. p. 237.

here seventeen days; and on Monday, 3d November, marched out of that town, at eleven o'clock at night, and arrived at Oxford on the 5th of the same month. "His majesty," says the anonymous diarist, whose words I now quote, "went from Oxford, the 27th of April, 1646, towards *Newark*, to the Scottish leaguer there; but in regard of the privateness of his going away, Oxford being at that time beleaguered by Sir Thomas Fairfax's army, and the fewness of his attendants, being at the most but two, we have no certainty where he staid by the way:\* but shortly afterwards, he appeared in the *Scots* army, who pretended to protect him from the *English* rebels; and, for the better securing of his majesty's person from danger, as was pretended, they staid not long after at *Newark*, but, by easy marches, removed, with his majesty's person, from *Newark* to Newcastle; where the solemn agreement, between his said majesty and Mr. Henderson happened, concerning episcopacy and church government, to his majesty's everlasting honour. But such was the horrid perfidy of those treacherous Scots, that, instead of the expected safety of his majesty's person, Judas like, for money (though a far greater sum,†) sold and delivered their sovereign lord and king into the hands of his *English* rebels, who, by this means, had, under God, a power to re-settle the kingdom's peace: but they were blinded to their own destruction: and having taken the Lord's anointed in their pits, they now used him as they listed, carried him whether they pleased, and indeed treated him no otherwise than as their prisoner; for, with a strong guard of horse and foot, in the month of February, 1646, the depth of winter, they begin to remove him from Newcastle" to Holdenby.‡ In this progress, his majesty passed through the county of *Nottingham*, for the last time; the following places being successively upon the line of his route:—Newcastle, Durham, Auckland, Richmond, Rippon, Wakefield, Rotherham, *Mansfield*, *Nottingham*, Leicester, to Holdenby.

Passing over the intermediate history of the house of Howard, it may here be observed, that Edward, the ninth Duke of Norfolk, attained to the title in 1732, on the death of his elder brother Thomas, the last duke. They were both sons of Thomas Howard, of Worksop, Esq., by Elizabeth-Maria, only daughter and heir of Sir John Savile, of Copley, in the county of York. This Thomas was brother to Henry, the seventh duke: he accompanied James II. to France, and was afterwards with that king in Ireland, and was lost in his passage from that country to Brest, November 9, 1689.§ Edward, the duke above-named, being, by his adherence to the Catholic religion, excluded from offices in the state,|| fixed his residence at Worksop, where he lived in comparative

\* The *Collectanea*, however, contains an extract from Dr. Michael Hudson's Journal, which supplies this hiatus, *vide* vol. ii. p. 452. The doctor likewise mentions, that he was commanded by Charles to go to Southwell, to meet Montreville, the French ambassador, whom Cardinal Mazarine had sent to negotiate between the king and his parliament. And it may here be added, on the authority of the Southwell historian, that the ecclesiastical palace of that place, although not mentioned in the above list, afforded a temporary asylum to the harassed monarch.—*Dickinson's Southwell*, vol. i. p. 325.

† This sentiment likewise occurs, as a meditation of the

king, in the opening paragraph of the twenty-third chapter of 'ΕΙΚΟΝ ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ'.

‡ The above extract not only exhibits the feelings of the writer on the subject of the king's treatment, but may likewise serve as a specimen of the authorial style of the times on such subjects.

§ *Hallamshire*, p. 100.

|| His office of earl marshal, which is hereditary in the family, was executed by Richard Lumley Sanderson, Esq. of



retirement, with a splendour and dignity befitting his rank and fortune. The magnificence of his domestic establishment, and the hospitality of his house, are still referred to by a few surviving witnesses and participants of the same, as the golden era of their recollections. While this munificence was displayed at Worksop, the spirit of English hospitality, in its primitive greatness, was kept up with equal, if not surpassing splendour, at Welbeck house, which, from its proximity to Worksop, was equally partaken, and is no less complacently remembered by the ancient inhabitants. Then, indeed, the porter had his work with carriages at the gate; the trenchers in the servants' hall knew no pause, and the manger-feeders in the stables ceased not to run with corn; and, in the opinion of the fore-mentioned oral chroniclers, the visitors could hardly have been either more numerous or more welcome, if the following inscription (once engraven upon the old cross at Sprotbrough, near Doncaster, by one of the Fitzwilliam's, in the time of Henry V.) had been set up on the road to Welbeck:—

“ Whoso is hungry, and liste to eate,  
Let him come to [Welbeck] to his meast;  
And for a night and for a day,  
His horse shall have both corn and hay,  
And no man shall ask him when he goeth away.”

Duke Edward, after effecting numerous improvements in the neighbourhood, and dispensing blessings to the poor, died, without issue, 20th September, 1777, aged 91 years.

The title now passed to the Graystoke branch of the family, two members of which enjoyed it in succession; viz. Charles, the tenth duke, who died 31st August, 1786,\* and his son Charles, who died, without issue, 16th December, 1815.

Scarborough. By a special act of parliament, passed 24th June, 1824, the Duke of Norfolk is allowed to fulfil, in person, the duties of earl marshal, and hereditary marshal of England.

\* He was an author, and, before his accession to the title, published, besides other things, “ Historical Anecdotes of some of the Howard Family,” comprising the materials which he had collected, and designed for a preface to the poems of his illustrious ancestor, the unfortunate Earl of Surrey. In this work, chiefly a selection of authentic documents, the author's own remarks are characterised by candour and good sense. He defends, as before noted, the character of his ancestor the Earl of Arundel, from the aspersions of Clarendon; and speaks in a becoming manner of his grandfather and father. The former, he describes in his retirement, at Dibdin, near Darking, which place, according to Aubrey, was a perfect paradise: the latter, as possessing a fine taste for the polite arts, and great moderation in politics. “ He was,” says the author, “ one of the few of those days who held, that religion should never be blended with politics, further than as it enjoins a due submission to government, and an attention to the peace and

prosperity of society.” This, from several parts of the work, appears also to be his own opinion. At the period of this publication, he probably contemplated nothing as less likely than his own accession to the dukedom; and it must have been amusing, when he afterwards became the first peer of the realm, to read his complacent chit-chat, and contempt of merely derivative honour.

Honour and shame from no condition rise,  
Act well your part, and there true honour lies.

This couplet he quotes, and the reader will not fail to recollect another couplet in the same poem, which was no less evidently in the author's mind, “ The fool or knave,” says he, “ may hold forth to view a long list of noble and worthy ancestors; but what other purpose does it answer, than to place him in a more conspicuous degree of contempt? My motive in attempting this detail, was to furnish my well disposed readers with some amiable pictures of a good life, which may be pleasing in the view, and beneficial in contemplating. That they happened to be those of some Howards, and not of any other name, was only occasioned by my being, from my connexion, more familiar with them.”—*Anecdotes*, p. 146.

On the demise of the last duke, the title devolved to Bernard Edward, descended of Bernard Howard, the eighth son of Henry-Frederick, Earl of Arundel, the grandson of Thomas Howard, by Alethea Talbot. This nobleman now bears the honours of this illustrious family, as twelfth duke of Norfolk. His only child, by his Lady Elizabeth Belasyse, is Henry-Charles, Earl of Surrey, and heir-apparent, who married, 26th December, 1814, Lady Charlotte Leveson-Gower, by whom he has issue, Henry, Lord Fitzallan, and other children.

*Norfolk*—illustrious peer! what titles grace  
 Thy lineage, and thine ancestry renown'd;  
 With virtue, honour, loyalty, be crown'd  
 Thy future line: and chief, as next in place,  
 Thee, noble *Surrey*! Heaven preserve thy house;  
 And in each good presiding influence wait  
 Upon thine honourable high estate,  
 Thy children, and thine elevated spouse:  
 And chief, the eldest scion of your tree,  
 High-born *Fitzallan*!—May succeeding years  
 Make thee as first, so best of England's peers:  
 Then shall each future age rejoice to see,  
 (While each great lord with added honour dies,)  
 New *Norfolks*, *Surreys*, and *Fitzallans* rise.

The Earl of Surrey generally resides with his family, in the bosom of domestic retirement, at Worksop manor. Like his father, he professes the Catholic religion, and attends the ritual of the Romish church, at the chapel, near his residence; while his lady, of the Protestant family of the Marquis of Stafford, regularly worships in the parish church of Worksop. Whether, in the event of his succeeding to the title, he would renounce the principles of Popery, it would be presumptuous to guess, and might be impertinent to inquire, had not the Earl himself, on one occasion, made a somewhat striking allusion to this subject. On the 30th October, 1822, the first stone of a handsome church, since erected, at Attercliffe, near Sheffield, was laid by the Duke of Norfolk, and Earl Fitzwilliam, accompanied by the Earl of Surrey. At a dinner given on the occasion, the noble duke, after his health had been drunk, observed,—That he felt no scruples at what he had done; for, in one main respect, he considered himself as much a Protestant as any of his fellow-subjects: that he had taken the oath of allegiance to a Protestant king, and if that king were ever to become a Catholic, he should consider himself absolved from his oath. The chairman afterwards gave,—“ The Earl and Countess of Surrey, and their family;” when the Earl of Surrey, acknowledging the compliment which had been paid him, said,—“ My better half (in allusion, probably, to his wife) is already Protestant, and I trust the time is not far distant when there will be no difference between us.”

I shall now add to the foregoing brief account of the modern lords of Worksop, some particulars respecting the town in general. The earliest particular notice which we have of this place,

is given by Leland, in his "Itinerary:" this zealous individual made an antiquarian tour of the kingdom, by the command of Henry VIII.; his description, therefore, though brief, is curious,—  
 "About a mile beyond Blyth, I passid by a park caullid *Hodsak*, where Master *Clifton* hath a fair house.

"And a 2 miles farther, much by hethy and then woddy ground, I cam over a smaull broke with a little stone bridge over it: and so strait into Werkensop, a praty market of 2 streates, and metely welle builded. ['Made a market town more than xxx years ago.']

"The Priorie of Blak Chanons there was a thing of great building. Ther is at the south side of the priory cowrt a very fair great gate of hewyn stone.

"The olde castelle on a hill by the towne is cleane down, and scant knowen wher it was."

The town at present comprehends the following streets and places:—Bridge-street—Market-place—Park, or Coney-street—Potter-street—Ward-lane—Back-lane—Pearce's, or Ship-street—Norfolk-street—Newgate-street—Cheap-side—Common-side. To these may be added some other localities, with or without name.

*Radford*, an ancient appellation of the suburb, in which the church and some of these streets are situated, is now pretty generally lost in the more familiar designation of *Low Town*. Leland observes, that "Wyrkesop is callid in some old writings, Radeford." To what writings he refers, I know not; but, as in the *most* ancient documents it is not so called, we must look for the introduction and derivation of the name in a latter period. In Domesday-book, "*WERCHESOP*" is the only designation: and what is more conclusive against the prior or equal antiquity of *RADFORD*, it is not mentioned in the foundation charter of the first William de Lovetot, nor by his son Richard, although referring to the very spot. In all the subsequent grants, however, the church and priory are uniformly designated of Radeford; from which it appears most probable, that the canons having made a very superior ford over the river, and moreover, enclosed it for their own advantage, by the priory gateway, through which they might admit such carriages and passengers as were willing to pay for the convenience, and thereby render this passage a source of revenue, might be desirous that their house should be known by this appropriate appellation. This supposition is countenanced by the etymology of the word. The prefix *Rad*, or *Rade*, indeed, among other significations, means *red*, and might, at first sight, seem to refer to the colour of the sand at the passage: but, besides the absurdity of selecting that epithet to distinguish a single spot, by a property peculiar to the whole neighbourhood—the soil at the ford, and on the sides of the river where it passes is *not* red. *Ræde*, however, according to the Anglo-saxon vocabulary, means *commodus*, *i. e.* convenient, good, or profitable; which appears to favour, if not prove, the above hypothesis of its local etymology. Radford still retains some rights of jurisdiction peculiar to a township, in the election of officers, &c.

The "2 streates," mentioned by Leland, were probably the first three above mentioned, which are, in fact, but one street, running the whole length of the town, from the bridge to the Park-gate; and Potter-street, descending from the Market-place to the church. Many of the houses on the west side of Market-street, both shops and private dwellings, have an ancient, lofty, and respectable appearance. To the other side the remark is less applicable. The *moot-hall* is indicated by a crazy wooden belfrey on the gable of a building of no great antiquity, but old and shabby enough to be a disgrace to the use to which it is appropriated, and the situation where it stands. The ship-tavern, which gives its name to an old street running from the Market-place to the lead-hill, is a building of considerable antiquity, probably as old as Henry VIII.; its wooden frame-work, and curious projecting windows, exhibit a striking specimen of the style of building practised in this country before the manufacture of bricks.\* The houses on either hand, at the top of Potter-street, were both of them originally timber erections; but successive alterations, have left little of their first character, and still less of their first materials, discernible. The designation of this street has probably originated in the circumstance of its having been, from time immemorial, selected by the *potters*, for the exhibition of their wares on market-days. The lower part of it must at one period have been in a state far inferior to its present appearance, if we may credit the traditions of the town, which report, that it used to be so wet or overflowed, as to require stepping-stones across for foot-passengers; the name of *pond-yard*, in which the vicarage-house now stands, seems to favour the above report; indeed, such is the underground moisture of the low town, that there are probably not half-a-dozen cellars in Radford. This street contains the post office, the bank of Messrs. Cook, Childers, and Co., and many respectable private dwellings; among the latter, may be mentioned, a large house, built and inhabited by Henry Dunstan, Esq., who was sheriff of the county in 1745, and who, owing to an ambiguity in his will, exposed the estate to a series of litigations, which the good people of Worksop will not soon forget, and which ought to be a warning to them and others, not hastily to involve themselves in suits of law.†

\* Bricks, although of great antiquity among the Oriental, Greek, Roman, and Continental nations, are said to have been introduced into buildings, in this country, by Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in the reign of James the First. This was not the case, although he was a great encourager of their adoption, and on this account their history may be said to become incidentally connected with Worksop, where the use of them so much obtains. This is especially the case with the new streets occupying the south-east section of the town, the houses being literally of earthenware, from the tiles to the floor.

† The circumstances out of which the proceedings above alluded to arose, were, if I am rightly informed, briefly these: Mr. Dunstan dying without issue, left a will, by which he devised his estates to the children of his sister on this wise.—To George Huthwaite, the eldest son; but if he died before the will could take effect, or without issue, then to John, the second son,

in like manner; or, in case of his demise, or issue failing, to Stokeham, the third son; and after him, with the same proviso, to Cornelius, the fourth son. George, the eldest nephew, came to the estate according to the tenor of his uncle's will, took the surname of Dunstan; he outlived both his brothers next named, but died without issue, while they had each of them children; those of the elder brother, were evidently next intended as his uncle's legatees, but by a strange mistake in the will, Stokeham was called the second son, and John the third. Upon this circumstance the trial was founded; a daughter of John, and a son of Stokeham, each claiming to be heir; the one from a verbal construction of the clause, and the other from the obvious intention of the testator. After incurring law expenses to the amount of £8,000, and receiving the award of a jury at Nottingham, which declared the daughter of the eldest son to be the heir-at-law, these litigious cousins agreed to divide the estate equally between them! While these contentions, however, were going on, there was a third claimant

Cheapside is the designation of a few small houses, mostly built in the bank, along the road-side, between Radford and the Bracebridge. Mr. Champion has here a neat brick mansion on the right-hand of the road to Retford; and nearly opposite, is an ancient timbered dwelling, called *Jesus House*, which probably occupies the site, or may originally have been one of the *membra domestica* of the priory.

Norfolk Street consists of sixty houses, built uniformly, with small gardens attached, and was built about thirty years ago, on a subscription scheme, which, like others of a similar kind, was more flattering than successful. At the period above mentioned, in consequence of the conflagration of a worsted-mill at Cuckney, the proprietors, with some new connections at Worksop, erected two large mills at the latter place, for the purposes of spinning worsted, and weaving filletting, turban-stuff, sashes, &c. The spinning of cotton was afterwards attempted, but in consequence of the failure of the firm, the speculation dropped, and they adapted the mills—one for the purpose of grinding flour, and the other for sawing wood. The projectors were ruined, but the prospects of their success which promised a thriving trade, produced a new street, and probably left some additional inhabitants in the town.

It may not be improper here to mention the manufacture of another commodity with which Worksop became incidentally connected. One of the persons ruined by the speculation last mentioned, was Mr. Turberville. In 1783, being just arrived in London from Douay, he was employed by the plenipotentiaries engaged in drawing up the treaty of peace, at the conclusion of the great German war, as a French translator. Engaging himself in the family of Edward, Duke of Norfolk, he came down to Worksop, where he subsequently married, had a family, and ranked among the most respectable inhabitants. John Turberville, his son, being fond of chemistry, discovered a process, by which he thought *Blacking* might be made cheaper and better than ordinary; he thereupon began to negotiate a contract with government, to supply the army with this commodity, in the shape of rolls or large pastils, but these not answering, he was first led to manufacture the article in the consistency of paste, now in general use; and, according to *his puff*, so superior to all others.

Of the other streets nothing particular need be said. One very material cause of the augmentation, and probably improvement also, in the town, has been the alienation of certain portions of the site by the duke; these have been set out into building plots, and resold or let to numerous individuals, who have, by this means, become occupants and proprietors, where it was not probable, at one period, they would have become either.

arose, who boldly questioning all legal right of the late proprietor to devise his estate at all, presented herself as Mr. Dunstan's heir, and employed her friends to take forcible possession of the mansion in Potter Street. This was resisted by the opposite party; and a serious *fracas* ensued; bruises and broken

heads were plentifully dealt, and one man was killed on the spot, when further disturbance was prevented, by the judicious advice of the Duke of Portland, who was sent for on the occasion.

In 1612, Thoroton mentions twenty persons as owners of Worksop, including the Earl of Shrewsbury. In 1825, the number of freeholders, according to a printed return of persons qualified, in consequence, to serve on juries, amounted to between forty and fifty, and of these, only one name (Champion) is to be found in the ancient list.\*

One of the most important projects, as connected with the history of Worksop in the eighteenth century, was the excavation of a navigable canal, from Chesterfield, in the county of Derby, to Stockwith, in the county of Nottingham. So certain and manifold did the advantages† included in this scheme at length appear, that, in 1770, 2 G. III., an Act of Parliament was obtained, constituting 175 persons, therein-named, trustees of a body-corporate, to be designated, "The Company of Proprietors of the Canal Navigation from *Chesterfield* to the River of *Trent*," to have perpetual succession and a common seal, with authority to undertake and complete the work, as soon as the sum of £100,000 should be subscribed towards the undertaking, which sum was to be divided into 1,000 equal shares. The ground-space on the line allowed by the act, including the canal, towing paths, ditches, drains, fences, &c., was not to "exceed twenty-six yards in breadth, except in such places where the canal shall be raised higher, or cut more than five feet deeper than the present surface." The rates of tonnage are laid not to exceed one penny *per* mile for every ton of lime; nor to exceed three halfpence *per* mile for every ton of coals, lead, timber, stone, and goods in general; with a provision, that no more than one halfpenny *per* mile shall be paid for the carriage of every ton of materials to be used in manuring the lands of any persons, whose lands shall be cut through by the canal. The act likewise determines, that no more than threepence *per* ton shall be demanded for wharfage, by the proprietors, or others, for any goods laid down, unless the same shall remain on the wharf or quay more than six days. It may be added, in connection with Worksop, that the act, after securing the usual supply of water to the duke's water engine on the river, provides for the preservation of Coldwell, Steetley, and Darfold springs, as they may now supply, or may hereafter be wanted, with water, the manor-house: likewise for the protection of the streams upon which the water mills of Worksop are situate.

\* There is something interesting in noticing the vicissitudes to which a local surname is incident in its migration through several centuries. I was led to make this remark, from the notices of the individuals of one family, which I have casually met with in my researches. The Mandevilles;—this very ancient family were founders, in 1136, of the abbey of Saffron Waldon, in Essex. In 1612, Robert Mandevil is noted by Thoroton among the "owners of Worksop." In 1613, Brian Mandefeld occurs as a churchwarden. In 1694, Widow Mandevile had a seat assigned to her in the church. In 1694, "Mr. Anthony Mandeville had, by an order from the Rt. Rev. Father in God, Thomas, Lord Bishop of Lincoln, possession given him of a certain seat in the chancel, late in the possession of him and his wives, for ever," &c.—*Par. Reg.* This Anthony was a respectable woollen-draper in the town, and the seat appears afterwards to have been transferred to Mr. Calton, vicar, about 1756. On enquiry afterwards, I learned that some of his descendants were servants in hus-

bandry, in the parish; and the last notice which I find of the name, is an entry in the register, of the baptism of John, son of Sarah Mandeville, *single woman* / sic transit gloria nomina.

† Among the advantages enumerated in the preamble of the act, the "canal is anticipated to open commercial intercourse between the said several towns of Chesterfield, Worksop, Retford, and Stockwith, and the port of Kingston-upon-Hull, and several inland counties, towns, and places, where considerable trade and manufactories are carried on and established, will also open an easy access to different collieries in the county of Derby, and to different limestone quarries in the counties of York and Nottingham, and contribute to the relief and convenience of the poor inhabitants residing near the course of the said cut or canal, and to tend to the improvement of the adjacent lands, the preservation of the roads, and be of great public utility."

This spirited undertaking was completed in 1774; immediately upon which, the price of coals\* fell, from 7d. or 8d., to 4½d. per cwt., and lime proportionately. So remote and precarious, however, did the success of this convenience appear for some years after its completion, that I have been told of some instances of the original proprietors disposing of their shares, under a depreciation of 95 per cent.: it is at present so far improved, that it pays annually about 7½ per cent. on each share. The canal passes the north side of the town, in a direction almost parallel with the river, till it leaves the parish: it has been, and promises to become, of immense advantage to the town in general.

Another transaction, of a subsequent date, involving immediate and permanent consequences to the parish in general, may be mentioned here:—In 1803, 43 G. III., an Act of Parliament was obtained, for dividing, allotting, and inclosing the several commons and waste grounds, and all other the open and uninclosed lands and grounds within the parish of Worksop, in the county of Nottingham. This act, so important to the parties interested, and so effective in breaking up the ancient features of the circumjacent ground, does not contain in itself any thing materially deserving of notice in this place. Besides the clauses usual in such an instrument, empowering the commissioners to act, and defining the rights of claimants, the intention of building the new vicarage house is recited, and the sum of £400, for that purpose, provided for, upon the sale of certain portions of *Wet-moor* and *Cole-moor* commons; and a clause, extinguishing the claim to vicarial tithes, and, awarding instead, an annual corn rent, as stated in the terrier before-recited. This rent is to be ascertained and fixed, according to the average price of good marketable wheat in the county of Nottingham, during the twenty-one years preceding the passing of this act; with the proviso, that, at the end of every fourteen years, the vicar, or the parties out of whose estates these corn rents are arising, shall be at liberty to re-asertain the average price of corn during that period, and equitably fix the vicarial *modus* accordingly. The operation of these acts is productive of one consequence, which can never be witnessed but with feelings of regret—the exclusion from every foot of green sward, and every acre of common right, of the children and the cattle of the poor: with the present generation, the recollection, that “such things *were*,” will be almost obliterated: the next race will hardly believe, that, where they dare not set a foot, their fathers freely roamed, and were not trespassers. Whatever the privileges and advantages of the inhabitants of Worksop might be, while the circumjacent commons lay uninclosed, the only gratuity secured to the town, by an exemption clause of this act, is, “that a certain pit or pool of water, upon the common or waste south of the said town of Worksop, lying on the west side of the turnpike road leading from Worksop to Ollerton, and commonly called *The Drinking Pit*, shall not be taken into or made part of any of the allotments to be made in pursuance of this act; but the same shall be left open and uninclosed for the use of the public, to which such convenient road or roads shall be made as the commissioners shall judge necessary!

\* This important commodity has, however, since risen in price, owing to the destruction of that competition which used to exist among the carters who fetched it from Staveley, and sold it throughout the country for the most they could get.

And such was the number of vehicles employed in this way, that I have heard it averred, that it was no uncommon thing to see between fifty and an hundred carts and waggons baiting in Worksop at once.

Since the introduction of the canal, and the operation of the enclosure act, a number of dwellings have been erected in the north-western precinct of the town, heretofore called *the common*; in consequence of which, this entrance into the main street is much improved in comfort and appearance.

Worksop does not contain many dissenters. The Calvinists have no chapel; but students from the academy at Rotherham, preach in a room on the Lead Hill. I do not know that there is a Quaker family in the town; and although George Fox, the founder of this sect, travelled regularly into Nottinghamshire, and frequently visited Mansfield and the neighbourhood, it does not appear that he ever came here. Neither am I aware that there are any Baptists. I recollect to have noticed, that some of the tunes are called "Worksop" in the hymn book, compiled for that denomination by Dr. Rippon.



METHODIST CHAPEL.

At the solicitation of an inhabitant, the Rev. John Wesley visited Worksop in 1780, and preached on the Lead Hill; but the reception which he met with was so ungracious,\* that he shook

\* "Thursday, July 29, 1780. I was desired to preach at Worksop; but when I came, they had not fixed on any place; at length they chose a lamentable one, full of dirt and dust, but without the least shelter from the scorching sun: this

few could bear; so we had only a small company of as stupid hearers as ever I saw. In the evening I preached at Sheffield." *Wesley's Works*, vol. v. p. 316.



off the dust of his feet against the place, and never saw it again. His preachers, however, included Worksop in the field of their labours; and, in 1813, a Methodist chapel, capable of containing about 400 persons, was opened for public worship. It was built by subscription; and the late Duke of Norfolk gave a handsome donation of timber.

The Catholic chapel is about a quarter of a mile from the town, on the left hand side of the Barlbrough road, at a place called *Sandhill Dyke*, and where there is a way leading to the park. It was built,\* or rather adapted from a previous building, and endowed, about forty years ago, by Charles, the tenth Duke of Norfolk; who, upon his son, the late duke, then heir-presumptive, declaring himself a Protestant in 1780, foresaw, that, on the event of his accession to the title, the adherents of the ancient religion would be turned out of the private chapel in the house, where they had heretofore worshipped. This came to pass: but the duke, out of honourable respect to the memory of his father, and the feelings of the Catholic inhabitants, still allowed the crucifix to retain its place on the altar of his chapel; an act by which he triumphed over the narrow illiberality of those who could represent such a sufferance, as contrary to the noble, liberal, and hallowing principles of Protestantism.

The names of the several priests, who have successively resided on the estate, as I have been able to collect them, are as follows:—Mr. Haddock: he came to the house at Worksop manor as soon as it was erected, and died there. He was succeeded, for a short time, by the celebrated Alban Butler, the Jesuit, who wrote the *Lives of the Saints*, and subsequently became president of the College at St. Omer's.† The next name was Taylor: he appears, from the cessation of his



\* The inside is neat, clean, and comfortable, but contains no matter of curiosity. The altar-stone, at present used here, is said to have been brought from the ruined church of Steetley: this, however, seems to be a mistake, as the sacred utensil itself, which I have been permitted to inspect, appears modern, and is wrought out of a piece of the black marble of Derbyshire, about two feet square, and marked with five crosses potent. There is a register of the baptisms, &c. kept by the resident priest. It is thus inscribed on the outside:—

*Registrum Baptismale in Capella Romana Catholica apud Worksop servata, incipiens, Anno Dni. 1772.*

*Nec non,*

*Sub finem Registrum eorum qui Sacramentum Confirmationis suscepere, ab Anno Dni. 1774.*

A record of the baptism of one of the Gainsfords, is the first entry on the first page, at the foot of which Mr. Gabb has written:—"M.B. What is contained in this page, I transcribed from some loose papers, lest any misfortune should happen."

Several leaves being evidently cut out of the book when it came into Mr. Gabb's custody, he left the following memorandum opposite:—"This book, being ruled with red marginal lines, manifestly indicates that it had at first been used for stating entries of money, which accounts for ye cutting out of ye first few leaves, which cannot be suspected to have contained entries of baptisms; since before the year 1778, no priest could, with safety, either sign his name, or subject his hand-writing to public inspection, on account of the penal laws. Before the partial repeal of those laws, all priests concealed ye registers of baptisms in their own keeping, except such as were preserved in the ambassadors' chapels. Roman Catholics were fully tolerated by an act of parliament, in ye year 1791." Mr. Gabb was mistaken in his conjecture about the mutilation of the book: the leaves in question were filled with entries, and had been transmitted, probably for safe custody, to the Catholic bishop in London, from whom they have lately been received back to Worksop.

† This divine, so justly celebrated among modern Catholic writers, was born in Northamptonshire, 1710. Counsellor Charles Butler, our author's nephew, relates a singular tradition of the family, namely, "that Mr. Simon Butler, (Alban's grandfather,) was the person confidentially employed by the Duke of Devonshire, and the Earl of Warrington, in inviting

signature in the Baptismal Register, to have left the manor in 1772. He is said to have been succeeded by a person of the name of Winstanley; but for this I have only the testimony of an ancient Catholic. In 1773, the Rev. Philip Wyndham, who was born at Rome, came to the manor; which place he left, after a residence of about twelve years, and went to Arundel, where he was living in 1812. He was succeeded by Mr. Fishwick, the last priest, who resided in the manor house, and the first who came to the pleasant house, connected with the chapel, at Sandhill Dyke: he is characterised as having held narrow and exclusive principles, and being anxious to avoid all communication with Protestants, as well dead as living: he had a disposition to make a cemetery adjoining the chapel; and was accordingly buried in the garden, where his grave is still indicated by a little raised oblong flower bed, carefully trimmed, and covered with a profusion of the *viola odorata*. His successor, the Rev. Thomas Gabb, was the author of some very curious tracts,\* and a man of another mind: he lived to a good old age, upwards of 75, and was buried,

the Prince of Orange over to England: that he professed the Protestant religion, and that his great zeal for it was his motive for embarking so warmly in that measure; but that he never thought it would be attended with the political consequences which followed from it; that, when they happened, they preyed greatly on his mind; that to fly from his remorse, he gave himself up to pleasure; and that, in a few years, he dissipated a considerable proportion of the remaining part of the family estate, and left what he did not sell of it, heavily encumbered."—Alban, while yet a child at his initiatory school, exhibited his predilection for pious exercises, as well as for that branch of literature in which he afterwards engaged, for, it is recorded, that he has frequently been heard to repeat, with a surprising minuteness of fact, and precision of chronology, to a numerous and wondering audience of little boys, the history of the chiefs and saints of Saxon times. About the age of eight years, he was sent to the English College of Douay, where, after having completed the usual course of study, he was admitted an alumnus, and appointed Professor of Philosophy; and, it may be remarked, he adopted, in part, and introduced into his dictations to the students, the Newtonian system, which was then gaining ground in the foreign Universities. In 1745, he accompanied the late Earl of Shrewsbury, and the honourable James and Thomas Talbot, on their travels through France and Italy, when, it is remarkable, that although anxious to shew them every thing worth seeing, he kept them from all stage entertainments. He was soon afterwards sent on the English mission, when Staffordshire became, for a while, the scene of his labours; but he did not remain long here, for, on the recommendation of Mr. Chaloner, vicar apostolic of the London district, he was appointed chaplain to Edward, Duke of Norfolk, and tutor to Mr. Edward Howard, his nephew, and heir presumptive, after whose death it was, probably, that he came to reside at Worksop with the duke. Presently after his return to this country from his travels, he was chosen president of the English college at St. Omer's, which situation he held till the time of his death, May 15, 1779, aged 63 years, 39 of which he had been a priest.

His learning appears to have been considerable, and his life exemplary; of the former, he has bequeathed to posterity the means of judging, in his voluminous *Lives of the Saints*, a most laborious work, and seemingly written in a spirit and temper that justifies the encomiums of his biographers, who declare, that polemical acrimony was unknown to him: he never forgot, that, in every heretic, he saw a brother Christian: in every heathen, he saw a brother man. The work, of course, records many miracles, and to a Protestant, his credulity certainly appears ample; but, according to a scale of hagiographists, to be imagined, from Surius to Baillet and Launoy, he is said, in respect to a belief of miracles, to hold a middle place. As the preface of this work states it to have cost the author the labour of thirty years, some portion of its contents might be cogitated in the seclusion of Worksop manor: indeed, he appears to go a little out of his way, as if for the purpose of recognizing the *genius loci*, where he mentions the interment of John Talbot, in St. Mary's Chapel, at Worksop.—*Lives of the Saints*, vol. x. p. 284.

\* Among other studies, to which a disposition for obtruse calculation, led Mr. Gabb to devote the leisure which his situation afforded, were, an attention to the ancient standard of linear measure, as it might be deduced from existing monuments; and likewise to the writings of Vitruvius, amongst whose commentators, he believed himself to have discovered many erroneous conclusions with respect to the subject of Grecian architecture. Some of his opinions on these topics he published in the Gentleman's Magazine, at the latter end of the years 1802 and 1803. He afterwards more fully investigated these subjects, and having "matured his metrical ideas," he published, in 1806, with a grateful dedication to the Duke of Norfolk—"FINIS PYRAMIDIS, or Disquisitions concerning the Antiquity and End of the Great Pyramid of Giza, or Ancient Memphis in Egypt, and of the first Standard of Linear Measure. Also, a complete description of Solomon's Temple, of which the true dimensions recorded in the Holy Bible, are explained, and the erroneous opinions of Commentators refuted; being a

according to his express desire, in the church-yard, April 24, 1817, leaving behind him the character of a superior preacher, a respectable mathematician, an agreeable companion, and a worthy man. The next incumbent was the Rev. T. M. Macdonnel, who, in 1824, removed to Birmingham, and was succeeded by the present amiable priest, the Rev. James Jones.

*recent discovery, and architectural discussions on Sundry controverted documents of Vitruvius. The canon of Symmetries ascertained from his books. With the true ordination and disposition of some of the most celebrated Grecian Temples, and strictures on Mr. Stuart's second vol. of the Antiquities of Athens. By the Rev. THOMAS GABB."*

This prolix title ushers the reader to two hundred and eighty-four pages of dissertation, too recondite for abstract or analysis here. In the first chapter, the author treats "of the modern Greek foot, originating from a misapprehension of the Hecatompedon Parthenon at Athens, and of the true one from the ancient Parthenon;" and from the arguments of the chapter, he infers that the ancient *foot measure* in use amongst the first settlers in Cecropia, is *clearly to be ascertained*, from the restoration of their ancient dedication to Minerva. He then refers to matters dependant upon the Greek foot: most persons are aware of the existence of the celebrated granite chest, in the chamber of the great pyramid of Giza, but few, probably, may be informed of the use to which Mr. Gabb devotes it: instead, therefore, of surmising about its contents; talking about a Cheops, of whom the Egyptian priests told Herodotus it was the coffin; reporting how it rings like a bell, or lamenting that the lid has been purloined—Mr. Gabb boldly disperses these common places, by the assertion, that this famous chest was manufactured and placed here, *as a standard of measure*.

This assertion is founded on the analogy alleged to be discovered between the measure of the chest and the pyramid; for, it appears, that the French, while in possession of Egypt, dug out the sands at the corners of the pyramid, till they discovered the apophye of the reclining sides, and there taking the measure from corner to corner, at the very foundation, have ascertained the side of the base to be just 400 of the Nilometer cubits at Cairo, or equal to the great Egyptian Stadium; and that the granite chest in the upper chamber, is exactly one-hundredth part of the said base, being four cubits of Cairo.

"This discovery of the centesm standard of measure," says the author, p. 29, "the *granite chest* brings home a demonstration to the mind, more forcibly than a thousand arguments, that the founder of this surprising pile, whoever he may have been, caused that excavated chest to be deposited where it stands, and whence he knew it could not be taken away, as a perpetual criterion whereby, without actual measurement, the exact length of the side of the base might always be known: and amongst other things, which will be noticed in the sequel, it demonstrates the early prevalence of centesms or hecatoms,

which must have been very usual and familiar to those first inhabitants of that part of the earth; since this standard chest is not reported as charged with subdivisions or characters demonstrative of its use, independent of a knowledge habituated to the founder, but derived thus late to us by the recent experiment."

Whatever the reader may think of this explanation of the *design* of the pyramid, he may be startled by an incidental opinion broached by Mr. Gabb, respecting its *antiquity*; for, he states, and very ingeniously maintains the hypothesis, that this celebrated pile was erected by the antediluvians. It would be unjust, however, to impute to our author any doctrine which he distinctly disclaims, and therefore, it must, in fairness, be stated, that he "does not for a moment suppose, that the end of erecting this astonishing pile, was *only* to environ and secure a standard of perpetual durance of the cubit and foot measure." The ingenuity of learned men may be left to account, as it can, for the design of this pyramid, but he must have more than the common heterodoxy of prejudice on this subject, not to admit the conclusiveness of Mr. Gabb's arguments for the antiquity of the pyramid of Giza. I have devoted this space to a notice of the most interesting, but not most elaborate portion of this work, from a persuasion, that while the work itself would repay the examination of the curious, the above extract cannot be uninteresting to the general reader.

It may be proper to notice another production of the pen of this gentlemen. Mr. Gabb had long entertained notions contrary to those principles of philosophy which Newton and his followers have applied in the solution of phenomena connected with the system of the universe. His arguments on this subject, he digested into a treatise, which he submitted to the censure of his friends, who unanimously dissuaded him from committing himself: amongst these, was the Rev. James Simkiss, of Sixhills, in Lincolnshire, to whom Mr. Gabb wrote, and in his letter, thus alludes to the work in question:—"The object of my short treatise is not *professedly* to combat the Newtonian theory of astronomy, which, in reality, I never had either taste, leisure, or talent, to investigate. But it is *very* true, that in the sequel of the work, the hypothetical *basis* of the Copernican system, is incidentally attacked. In the two last chapters of the treatise in question, I have stated Gallileo's arguments and experiments, by which he conclusively answers the objections only against the hypothesis of a diurnal revolution of the earth." October 24, 1808. In a subsequent letter, he says:—"The cause I had undertaken to defend, was the Mosaic narrative of the creation." Dec. 8, 1808.

The education of the ignorant, and the support of the indigent poor, are matters of importance in every well ordered Christian community: And the poor laws, of which their liability to abuse is a part of their glory, are among the noblest institutions of this country. Upon the dissolution of the monasteries, the casual crumbs from their tables, and the regular pittance of the founders, were swept away together; while the idle, the poor, and the afflicted, who had been dependant on them for supplies, were cast upon society, which offered but a cold and unwilling bosom of reception to the most needy. The reign of Elizabeth brought a remedy, by erecting certain districts into parishes, and placing them under the care of a parson, so called from *persona*, because he was bound in his own proper person to serve God and administer the sacraments. Every parish was obliged to take care of its own poor; for which purpose, 2½d. in the pound was collected once a fortnight. In addition to this, the church-going poor received some slight blessings from the gratuitous alms of the pious, collected in the "*Poor's Box*," as it was called, and usually placed in some conspicuous situation in the places of worship. On a stout pedestal, a few paces between the porch door and the middle aisle, at this place, stands one of those ancient appendages of the church: it is a massy, rough, iron-bound box, with a clasp-lock; and over it, a cut board, exhorts to "REMEMBER THE POOR. Ano' 1684." *Workhouses*, as they are called, sometimes by a

The system which Copernicus kept thirty years by him before publication; which Galileo promulgated at his peril, and retracted to save his life; which Newton has so ably and so beautifully supported, and which is at present adopted throughout Europe, as the true theory of the universe:—this system, which, assuming the sun as a centre, gives to all the planets a circum-solar motion, Mr. Gabb conceived to be no less repugnant to the Mosiac account of the creation, than to true philosophy. The stability of the earth, in opposition to its annual progress through its orbit, and especially of a rapid diurnal motion on its own axis, he conceived to be no less clearly a doctrine of Divine revelation, than a fact demonstrable from experiment and analogy.

Mr. Simkins, and others, by appealing to the doctrine of projectiles, convinced him of the invalidity of his mathematical arguments; and he consented to delay the publication of his treatise, until he had more maturely considered the subject; and he thus writes to Mr. Simkins, July 15, 1809:—"I keep my MS. copy in my desk: a lapse of two years, I apprehend, must intervene between this and my new attempt." During the above period, a splendid comet, which appeared in our hemisphere, was deemed, by Mr. Gabb, from the length of time which it could be seen in an evening, to add new strength to his arguments; and, September 29, 1812, he writes to Mr. Simkins,—"I send you my *Opusculum*, which I have lately published." This "*Opusculum*" lies before me, and is entitled, "*Thoughts on the Creation, and on the Systems of Astronomy*." By the Rev. Thomas Gabb." 1812. p. 100. I presume this is the work according to his original design, but divested of the mathematical arguments. The opening pages of the work are in a satisfactory commentatorial style; but he no sooner gets upon the subject of light, vision, and space, than he becomes quite

unintelligible. The following passages may be given from the later portion of the work:—"Moses asserts that the sun is in the heaven: the hypothetical system assigns his place, not in the heaven, but in the centre of the universe. Moses assures us, that the earth is in the sub-celestial region, separated from the heaven by a firmament: but the abettors of the hypothesis maintain, that the earth flies round the sun; and the clear consequence is, that the earth is always in the heaven, and the sun never there! Now these positions are among the contradictions which this favoured system clearly involves; and it cannot well be doubted, but the conviction of them occasioned the thirty years' hesitation in the mind of Copernicus, who was aware of the immediate disparagement to his character, which the editing of such glaring contradictions to scripture, would incur; for though he was, in succession, a physician, a divine, and an astronomer, he was not so much of a prophet, as to foresee how extensively his frantic hypothesis would spread over Europe, and subjugate the common sense of the *literati*, and, at length, make its way even to the brain of a Newton. And now, alas! what have we lived to see? Even a kind of competition for the boon of truth, between the writings of Moses, and this hypothetical theory, adopted by the illustrious Newton! Here this debate assumes a serious aspect; for, either the respectable character of Moses is at issue, or the high reputation of our celebrated philosopher is to be put to the question." pp. 65-66. Happily for the world, the adoption of the solar system is not at variance with the cosmogony of Divine revelation; and therefore, the issue of the question, will neither impale the respectable character of the Divine historian, nor the high reputation of our celebrated philosopher, on the horns of that dreadful dilemma, which Mr. Gabb's imagination has created.

misnomer, are of much later institution, not having become general till about 1730. The building at present tenanted by the poor of Workop, was originally a private dwelling, and had, when inhabited by a Doctor Stevens, about fifty years ago, a light glazed summer-house upon the roof, which, standing as the building does, on the most elevated situation in the town, was conspicuous at a great distance; it is rented by the overseers, of the Duke of Norfolk, at £26 10s. per annum.\*

A little more than a century ago, a fire broke out on the lead hill, not far from the work-house, which raged for a time with dreadful rapidity, as appears from a notice in the town accounts, which states that the fire happened, Nov. 1722, and that 15s. was paid to fifteen men, for their exertions in trying to put it out, and likewise for watching all night; there is a subsequent payment to seven others for watching. The damage was computed at £1000.

In 1729, a commendable attempt appears to have been made to "keep holy the Sabbath-day," in the suppression of a practice too commonly tolerated and encouraged. In this year the churchwardens paid half-a-crown for a bond, in which the barbers bound themselves "not to shave on Sundays, in the morning."

As before observed, a large room over the ancient abbey gateway, is now used as a school for poor children, who are admitted from six years old and upwards, on the payment of one shilling a quarter for instruction. They are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, and are expected to attend the church every Sunday, on Christmas-day, and on the morning of Good Friday. The support of the school arises from subscriptions in the neighbourhood,† and the proceeds of some charity lands at Ecclesfield, at present paying fourteen pounds per annum.‡ Treasurer of the school, Rev. Thomas Stacey. The room was opened for a school on Dr. Bell's system, about ten

\* Of the disbursements of the overseers, some judgment may be formed from the following document recently circulated in the parish, and purporting to be "an account of money paid and collected in the last four years, for the relief of the poor in the parish of Workop:—

	£	s.	d.
"Year commencing Easter 1821, and ending Easter 1822, . . . . .	2779	13	6
"Year commencing Easter 1822, and ending Easter 1823, . . . . .	2337	11	6
"Year commencing Easter 1823, and ending Easter 1824, . . . . .	2349	5	8½
"Year commencing Easter 1824, and ending Easter 1825, . . . . .	2573	16	0

"Paid in four years, and the whole collected excepting about £8, . . . . . £10,040 6 8½  
 "There is a debt left of about £500 for bills unpaid, (see balance book, settled at the Select Vestry, on Friday, the 13th Inst., and sworn to on Saturday, the 14th Inst., before the magistrates at

Retford.)—This debt must be paid by an additional book directly. . . . . 500 0 0

"Total amount of money paid for the last four years, and debt left for bills unpaid. (Errors excepted.) . . . . . £10,540 6 8½

"Workop, May 16, 1825."

† A printed list of 49 subscribers, [1823,] lies before me, including the names of the Duke of Newcastle, Duke of Portland, Earl of Surrey, George Foljambe, Esq., Rev. T. Stacey, the Catholic priest, &c.

‡ About the year 1745, when George Dunstan, Esq., and Jno. Richardson, gent., were trustees of these lands, they were leased to John Lockwood, of Ecclesfield, at a yearly rent of £19, as appears from a note in the parish register, where they are called Ragfields, Hollingfields, and Bluefield, containing together, by estimation, twenty acres.

years ago, after a thorough reparation, but it appears to have been so appropriated, as early as 1713, if an item in the churchwarden's accounts refers, as I presume it does, to this place:—  
 “ 1728. Paid 15 years' school-rent, £1 10s. 0d.” There is likewise a school for the instruction of girls gratuitously, under the patronage of Lady Surrey, Mrs. Foljambe, and other benevolent ladies. It may not be impertinent here to remark, that the town of Worksop appears to me, well adapted for the establishment of boarding-schools: situated in a healthy, open, and interesting district; free from the dirt and bustle of manufactories; intersected by excellent roads; and the better portion of the inhabitants genteel and respectable; these advantages, with the success of some schools already established, appear to constitute no mean confirmation of the opinion here ventured to be expressed.

On the eighteenth of November, 1795, about ten minutes after eleven o'clock at night, a very smart shock of an earthquake was felt in this neighbourhood, accompanied by a noise resembling the explosion of confined air, it lasted about eight or ten seconds, and considerably alarmed the inhabitants: the concussion was so great that several chimnies were thrown down, and the bells in many of the church steeples were heard to sound.

Another earthquake, still more alarming, was perceived here, and elsewhere, on Sunday, March 17, 1816, at noon. This being at the period of divine worship, at Worksop, the inhabitants were in the church, when the shock was felt; with the motion, a loud crash was heard at the towerend: the vicar paused, and the congregation began to rush out, being, with difficulty, persuaded to forbear unnecessary pressure; it was not in general until the people got out, that the cause of the alarm was generally explained. Many of the townspeople who had staid at home and felt the shock, believed that the church had fallen down, and were posting thither to see, as the others were returning home.

In the year 1814, when this kingdom was filled with rejoicing at the termination of a war which had been protracted beyond twice the duration of that which is celebrated in the “Tale of Troy Divine,”—Worksop was behind few places in the spirit of its festivities. The morning of Tuesday, June 22, was ushered in by the ringing of bells, and a display of innumerable flags:—eighteen tables were prepared in the principal street, for the accommodation of thirty men at each table; excellent roast beef and good plumb-pudding in plenty, covered the tables; and at one o'clock five hundred and forty working-men, principally farmers' labourers, sat down to dinner; two gentlemen presided at each table; about a gallon of ale was allowed to a man. The greatest order and decorum were observed, and the management of the whole business did great credit to the gentlemen employed in conducting it. The money was raised by a general subscription of the inhabitants, with some assistance from the Duke of Portland, the Duke of Newcastle, and Sir Thomas White. A still greater number of females partook of tea and spice-cakes, at five o'clock, provided from the same fund; and after tea there was, for the females, a large quantity of good cold posset, provided by subscription. In the evening there was a display of fire-works. The day was fine;

the evening rather unfavourable. The inhabitants of the common, from a subscription of their own, dined near two hundred men on the same day, and provided tea, &c. for as many females. There could not be fewer than fifteen hundred persons regaled free from expense to themselves, reckoning men, women, and children.

The town contains five of those excellent and provident associations, called *Sick Clubs*; four of them held at as many public-houses, where the monthly subscriptions are paid; and the other at the abbey-school, for the accommodation of those who may prefer its advantages. On Whit-Monday, these societies go in procession to the church, and after service, return and dine together at their respective inns.

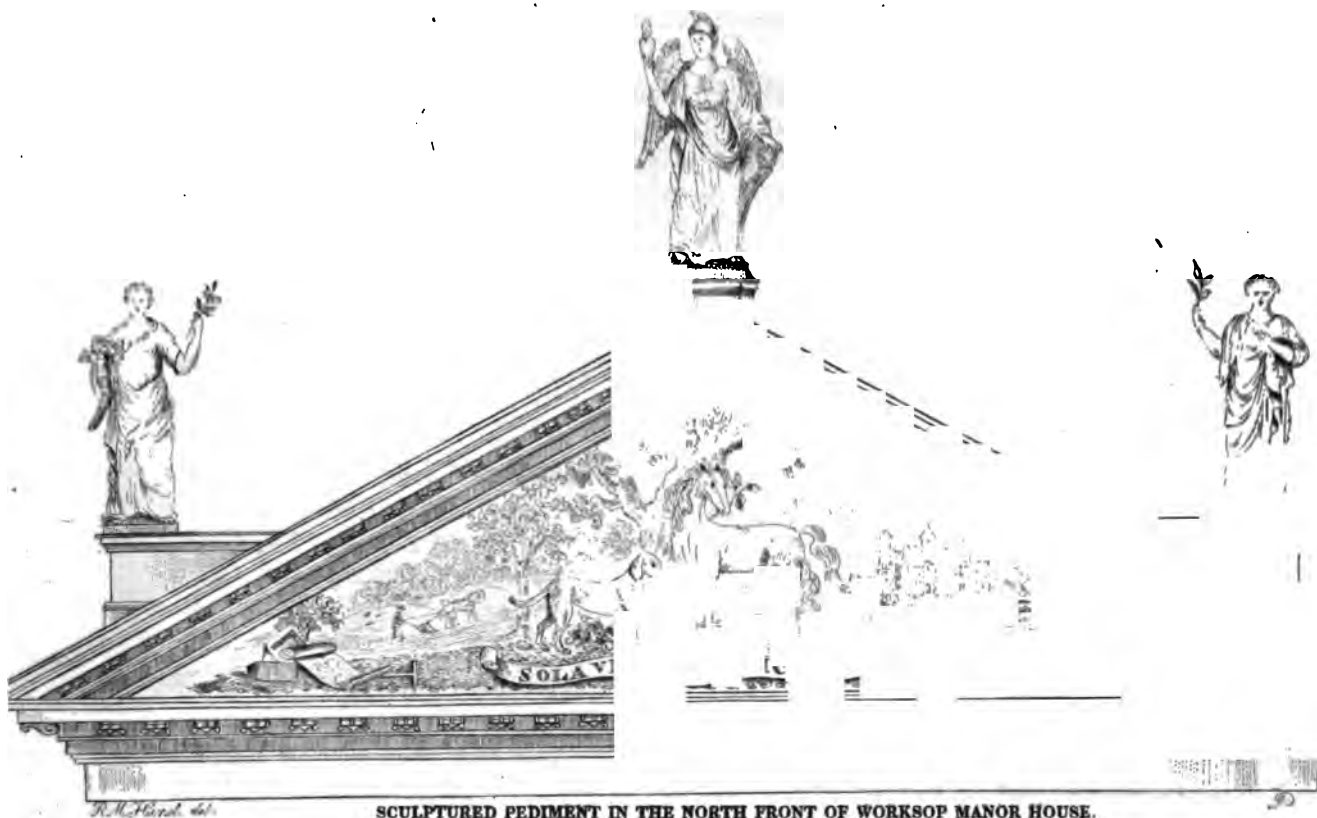
Of popular sports, as well as of the places of public amusement, little need be said here,—especially by one, whose habits and feelings eminently disqualify him to speak on these topics; of the former, indeed, none are peculiar to this place; and of the latter, in general, their admirers express themselves in comparative terms. The time is past, when the abusing of cocks, and the baiting of bulls, could be admitted as necessary to keep up the ancient spirit and courage of our countrymen. The latter of these diversions, the relic of a barbarous taste, used to be witnessed at Worksop: but the bull-ring, made at the beginning of the last century, by a blacksmith, named Cuthforthay, at the parish expense, and fixed on the lead hill, has been some years removed. In 1777, and for two or three years afterwards, the forest, on the south side of the town, exhibited the sports of the turf, on a scale similar to that which obtained, in many other places, previous to the almost universal operation of enclosure acts. In 1787, a company of strolling players visited the town: this suggested a hint to a bricklayer, of the name of Read, who, the year following, erected the present theatre. The celebrated Alban Butler, in one of his Letters from the Continent, written during his tour with the honourable Edward Howard, observes, “we never see the theatres, unless it is for something interesting in their architecture:” though the theatre of Worksop claims not a single notice on this score, yet it has distinctions, probably peculiar to itself: although well fitted up with boxes, pit, and gallery, and generally well attended during the theatrical session, yet the owner, with a just regard to economy and convenience, occupies the places of the audience with his corn sheaves in harvest, and afterwards converts the stage into a threshing-floor. How few theatres contribute even this humble modicum of utility!\* Balls and assemblies, it may be added, are held in a commodious room at the Red Lion Inn. Among the nobility and gentry, however, hunting, as elsewhere observed, is the principal diversion; and, perhaps, Worksop-park exhibited a spectacle, rarely witnessed in the kingdom, when, in the autumn of 1824, the reverend Primate of England appeared on his hunter, at the head of a splendid field of sportsmen, as ever followed the celebrated foxhounds of Lord Scarborough.

\* Perhaps it may be proper here to remark, that an 8vo. pamphlet, of thirty-six pages, “Being Observations on the Moral tendency of the Stage, &c. 1819,” in opposition to the

anti-theatrical strictures of the excellent minister of St. James’s Church, Sheffield, is the largest production of the Worksop press.

Of the intellectual character of the inhabitants in general, I have not been brought into circumstances favourable for the acquisition of a correct knowledge, and therefore, shall give no decided opinion on a point at all times sufficiently delicate, and surely not least so, when a stranger, who has been kindly entertained, presumes to pronounce judgment. In towns where the relative distinctions of personal or family importance, are not broken down, or abraded by the effects of trade, and the feeling of mutual independence, the reciprocal duties of friendship and good neighbourhood, are most likely to be confined or neglected; as, in such cases, there wants the circulating medium of free and universal intercourse; for which, insulated independence, however multiplied, is no equivalent. In no situations do men more certainly rise and sink into their relative importance or non-importance in the scale of society, than where they are constantly brought into contact with their equals, or their superiors: and no where is this less the case, than in those places where the privileges of social intercourse are defined or limited. In the production and estimation of civil happiness, recourse must be had to three principal operating causes—Religion, Amusement, and Literature. To expatiate on the two former of these topics, might appear invidious or impertinent: in connection with the latter, I may observe, that there are two respectable booksellers in Worksop, who are both printers;—may I add, that, at present, the last four words comprehend all that is interesting in the typographical annals of the place. It is, however, with different feelings, that I leave to some future historian the pleasing duty of recording the success of a *subscription library*, recently established, as I cannot but believe, that such a medium, for the acquisition and circulation of useful knowledge, promises to be of incalculable advantage to the town and neighbourhood.





SCULPTURED PEDIMENT IN THE NORTH FRONT OF WORKSOP MANOR HOUSE.

## CHAPTER VI.

### **Worksop Manor—Hamlets in the Parish—Places of interest in the Neighbourhood.**

**A**T what period the park, at present surrounding this Nottinghamshire seat of the Dukes of Norfolk, was first made, does not appear, but probably soon after the conquest. The Normans, who were fond of hunting, introduced the custom of making these immense enclosures about their castles and mansions, for the conservation of game; probably in imitation of the forest-making

rage of their leader, with whom they might also draw upon themselves the curses of those whose hearths and altars, as well as ancient land-marks, they might thus obliterate. Not that parks were then first known, either in this or other countries, but that they then became general. The word *parcus* appears in Varro, (derived, no doubt, *à parcendo*, to spare or save,) for a place wherein cattle are preserved.

"There is mention," says Fuller, "once or twice, in Domesday-book, of *parcus silvestris bestiorum*, which proveth parks in England before the conquest." Of this there can be no doubt, so far as similar entries in that record, can be admitted as evidence; and on that authority Mr. Ellis enumerates not fewer than sixteen or seventeen.

Polidore Virgil, referring to the time of Henry VII., notices the immense tracts at that period thus appropriated, and in which were to be found, stags, deer, and wild goats, as well as rabbits, especially in the northern parts. "You, everywhere," says he, "meet with vast forests, where these wild beasts range at large, or with parks secured by pales; hunting is the principal amusement of all the people of distinction."

Whether or not the ancient lords may have had any royal grant or charter for the appropriation of this tract, does not appear; if it was a park by prescription merely, the owner's claim seems to have suffered no molestation. The earliest mention of Worksop-park which we meet with, occurs in the deed of Richard de Lovetot, *circiter*, 1161, in which, as we have seen, he grants to the prior of Radford, the privilege to have two carts straying in his "park of Wyrksop," to collect firewood. Subsequently, in the reign of Edward III., we have seen also, that a suit was moved between the then prior of Worksop, and Thomas de Furnival, the latter being charged with making "waste, sale, and destruction of his park of Worksop," to the detriment of the above privilege. From that early period to the time of Henry VIII., we have no intermediate history of this tract. In a perambulation of Sherwood, made in the 30th year of that monarch's reign, "the park of the Earle of Shrewsbury, heretofore Lord of Furnivall," is mentioned incidentally, as without the forest limits. Leland, writing in the same reign, observes, "By Wyrksop is a park of a vi or vii miles in cumpace, longging to the Earle of Shrewsbury."

The excellent and philosophical John Evelyn, Esq., in his "*Sylva*," mentions Worksop-park, among those "sweet and delectable country-seats of the nobility," which, he says, every body must have seen, admired, or heard of. And it seems, at a period preceding the publication of his work, to have contained some oaks of great antiquity and magnificent growth. Of these noble trees, he thus speaks on the authority of Mr. Halton, auditor to the then Duke of Norfolk:—"In this park, at the corner of Bradshaw-rail, lieth the bole of an oak tree, which is twenty-nine feet about, and would be found thirty if it could be justly measured, because it lieth upon the ground; and the length of the bole is ten feet, and no arm or branch upon it. In the same park, at the white gate, a tree did stand, that was, from boughend to boughend, (that is, from

the extreme ends of two opposite boughs,) one hundred and eighty feet, which is witnessed by Jo. Magson and Geo. Hall, and measured by them both. The content of ground upon which this tree perpendicularly drops, is above 2827 square yards, which is above half-an-acre of ground: and the assigning of three square yards for an horse, there may 942 be well said to stand in this compass. In the same park, (after many hundreds sold and carried away,) there is a tree which did yield quarter-cliff bottoms, that were a yard-square: and there is of them to be seen at Worksop at this day, [1700,] and some tables made of the said quarter-cliffs likewise. In the same park, in the place called there the Hawk's Nest, are trees forty feet long of timber, which will bear two feet square at the top end, or height of forty feet."\* In another place he adds, "And my worthy friend, Leonard Pickney, Esq., lately first clerk of His Majesty's kitchen, did assure me, that one John Garland, built a very handsome barn, containing five bays, with pan, posts, beams, spars, &c. of one sole tree, growing in Worksop-park."

To these brief notices of the ancient history of this park, may now properly succeed some account of the noble mansion, with which it was afterwards adorned. Our first authority must be Leland, who, speaking of Worksop, says, "There is a fair Park hard by it; and *the beginnings of a fair Manor place of squared stone yn the same.*" He afterwards mentions "the fair lodge† in Wyksoppe Park, *not yet finisshed;*" and adds, "This Erle of Shrewsbury's father was about

\* Sylva. Hunter's Edit. vol. ii. p. 198.

† Whether or not Leland here refers to the building at present called *Worksop Lodge*, and which stands, not in the park, but near Shireoaks, about a quarter of a mile N. W. of the Manor, I do not know. The remembrance of my first visit to this pile, is a picture in my mind, which will not soon be obliterated. It was on the 10th January, 1825, by the morning star-light of a clear, still, and beautiful day, as ever appeared in the train of this sometimes very pleasant month, that, rising betimes, and quitting the hospitable mansion of my kind entertainers, I resolved to enjoy a walk before breakfast. I took the Barlbrough road as far as Mr. Durham's mill, on the right hand, where I entered the fields, and after rambling for about a quarter of an hour, by paths apparently but little frequented, I came to the Lodge, which, although said to be curtailed of two stories of its original elevation, is a tall, elderly-looking building, in the form of a truncated or coupéd cross. Many of the large windows, which might still be traced by their stone transoms in the walls, were built up, and the whole had an air of solitude not unbefitting the idea that it might have been at a remotely previous period, the labyrinth of some fair and unfortunate Rosamond, the legend of whose incarceration, although not to be found in ballad story, is, nevertheless, said still to glimmer through the obscurity of a waning tradition. Be that as it may: the spot, at this moment, seemed well adapted for the scene and machinery of a romance. I left it as the last star was disappearing in the progress of the dawn, and began to retrace my way homeward. The picture appeared

most delightful, especially from the hill near the Manor-cottage,—in the foreground lay the fields, diversified in shape, and covered with "the hoar-frost like ashes;" a little beyond, Mr. Durham's mill, with its extensive dam, and the snow-white swans proudly sailing thereon; on the right, the finely wooded high ground about the Manor, enclosed the scene; while in the mid-distance, the town of Worksop appeared to slumber in the semi-obscurity of the exhaling mist, and the blue smoke-wreaths that were floating lightly and fancifully above the buildings—the twin-towers of the Abbey-church, just discernable in the distance, terminated one of the most delightful pictures I ever beheld. "Not rural sights alone, but rural sounds," were here—the rising of the partridges at my side; the obstreperous cawing of an immense body of rooks over the trees; and the more distant sound of the woodman's axe,—broke the stillness of the scene in the most agreeable manner. Perhaps the pleasure arising from the contemplation of any scenery, depends no less upon the mind than the objects; to me every object in this neighbourhood was interesting, and, I trust, the inhabitants, at least, will be able to find therein my apology for this sentimental digression.

In 1670, Worksop Lodge was the residence of George Markham, (of the Markham family, of Ollerton, and whose brother Thomas was slain, fighting for King Charles, at Gainsborough, 1643,) and his wife, a daughter of Marmaduke Tunstall, of Wickliff, with their three children, George, Katharine, and Elizabeth. It is at present inhabited by Mr. Pegge.

to have finished hit, as apperith by much hewyd stone lyging there." The author of the *Antiquities of Arundel* says, that "the first Earl of Shrewsbury built a stately house here in the reign of Henry the Fifth;" but he cites no authority. Gough assigns the foundation to the same earl. The Shrewsbury who flourished when Leland wrote, was George, the fourth earl, who, if he was the builder must have laid the foundation of his house sometime before 1538, in which year he died, leaving the title, and the continuance of his work to his son Francis, the fifth earl, who died in 1560, six years after the historian, when the completion of the edifice devolved upon George, the sixth earl. We have previously seen how thoroughly the history of this great nobleman was involved in the ambitious character of his second wife; she survived him seventeen years, and devoting her widowhood to building, has had the honour not only of erecting the present mansion, but several others also. Thoroton falls into the popular error of ascribing to this lady the edifice in question. "She adorned," says he, "these counties with the magnificent houses of *Chatterworth*, *Hardwick*, *Oldcotes*, and this *Worksop Manor*."\* The edifice, however, of which she did not lay the foundation, might probably be indebted to her for its completion; or, what is most likely, very material additions to the original design. The house continued to be admired, embellished, and inhabited, by successive descendants of this noble family, till beyond the middle of the last century, when a destructive event removed the mansion and its magnificence, and robbed the county of Nottingham of one of its proudest ornaments.

On the morning of Tuesday, October 20, 1761, the manor house was discovered to be on fire: the fire was first detected in a closet near the library, burning with violence; immediately upon which an alarm was given, which soon spread far and wide; many of the neighbouring gentlemen, and most of the inhabitants of the adjacent villages, hastened to render assistance, but in vain: the house was full of combustibles, the wind was very high, and the little effect of the engine was still farther diminished, in consequence of the limestone, of which the walls were composed. The whole building was soon in a general blaze; and it was not until the whole of the pile, with the exception of the chapel, and a part of the east wing, was laid in ashes, that the destructive element was subdued.

The library, pictures, many of the old Arundelian marbles, and numerous other precious and valuable articles, were destroyed. Such parts of the magnificent furniture as were saved, especially a rich bed of needle-work, of which the hangings only were rescued, suffered very considerably. It is melancholy to add, that one man lost his life in the rubbish, and another was much burnt. The whole damage was computed at £100,000. And in one notice of the fire, it was observed, that, "great as this loss is to the family, it will be followed by a still greater to the country, as upwards of £12,000 of late has been yearly paid in wages to workmen, who were constantly employed about the house."† At the time of this calamity, the noble proprietor and

\* Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 393.

† *Gent. Mag.* Nov. 1761

his lady were both in London: on receiving the sad account, the duke said, "*God's will be done!*" and the duchess, "*How many besides us are sufferers by the like calamity!*"

I have not met with any particular description of this venerable seat, as it existed, at the period immediately antecedent to its destruction. It is stated to have contained about 500 rooms, and a magnificent gallery,\* in which many of the treasures of art were collected. I may here observe, that Throsby, in his edition of Thoroton, has given a very fine engraving of the manor, *as it was*, copied from one of Messrs. Buck's, who, in 1764, published representations of religious and other edifices, amongst which they have given splendid north and south views of this house.†

At the period of the above catastrophe, Edward, the ninth Duke of Norfolk, bore the honours of the family. By his duchess, Mary, he had no issue; and the heir presumptive was Thomas, the only son of Philip Howard, the duke's brother, deceased, by his first wife, a daughter of Thomas Stonor, Esq., of Watlington-park, in Oxfordshire. On the death of this lady, Philip Howard had married, as his second wife, Henrietta Blount, sister of Mary, Duchess of Norfolk, and had by her also a son and a daughter, the former, called Edward, after his uncle. This was the state of the peerage and its prospects, at the period of the conflagration of the family mansion: and if the personal childlessness of the duke, and the incidental singularity of the fact, that the issue of his brother's second marriage was more fully related to him, than the issue of the first, which would inherit, may be presumed to have slackened his anxiety about the re-edification of his house, it is much less uncertain that his disposition on that subject, was very materially affected by one of those events, often so unforeseen, and so arbitrary in the annihilation or transfer of family hopes.

On the 11th January, 1763, died unmarried, the above Thomas Howard, leaving his half-brother, then under the tutelage of the celebrated Alban Butler, heir-presumptive. Immediately thereupon, Duke Edward designed the erection of a new house, on the site of his ancestral seat, and himself laid the foundation-stone of the present edifice, 25th March, 1763, which is only one side of the original design—an immense quadrangle, intended to have outshone the rest of the houses of the nobility, and to have been worthy the residence and magnificence of the premier peer. From the commencement, the work was carried on with amazing vigour, and before the end of July, in the following year, the north, or present portion of the building was covered in! The astonishment excited by this celerity of operation, will be transferred to the means employed, when the reader is told, that at least, five hundred workmen were incessantly employed on the spot, chiefly under the superintendence of the duchess, who hardly ever quitted them.

\* Sir George Chaworth, of Annesley, in this county, writing to Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, after observing, that he cannot subscribe to what is said about the magnificence of the house then being built by Lord Dunbar, at Berwick, says, "only therefore I will say, what in p'ticular I heard (to use their own phrase) one of them creak; that Worsoppe gallerye was but a garratt in respect of the gallerye that would there be."—*Lodge*, iii. 336.

† Thoroton, in his work, published 1677, gives a south view of Worksop manor, a south-west prospect of the church of Radford, and "the old abbey gatehouse, as it now is, A.o. 1676." All three from delineations by Richd. Hall: the two former are miserably hard and stiff; and the last, engraved by Hollar, a little better, but far enough from exhibiting, in the *minuter details*, any likeness of the original.

On the occasion of the covering in above-mentioned, the noble owners gave a treat to their friends and workmen: ovens were erected in the court, for the convenience of cooking, and the spirit of festivity, with the most unbounded exultation, took possession of the place. Music and country-dances succeeded to feasting, and even the old duchess herself, in the hilarity of the occasion, danced down three or four couples. During the afternoon, she sent for £30 of silver, which she scattered from a window among the populace; and I have heard an old man, still living, refer with glee to the confusion occasioned by the scramble.

At the latter end of January, 1767, Edward, the heir and favourite, was seized with the measles,—at all times sickly to an adolescent subject, and then peculiarly rife and fatal in London. Notwithstanding the extreme anxiety of all his friends, and best medical attention, this interesting young nobleman, “the Marcellus of the English Catholics,” expired in the presence of my informant, Feb. 7, 1767, at the very moment when the inhabitants of Worksop were engaged in celebrating his 22d birth-day. The communication of this calamitous event, however mitigated by the satisfaction which the family felt in the recollection of the religious education he had received from the Rev. Alban Butler, affected the duchess almost to distraction; and although she survived her nephew several years, she never entirely recovered from the stroke:\* the spirit of building was thenceforward paralysed, the undertaking neglected, and the house was finished, or rather left unfinished, as it now appears. It then became the general residence of the duke, who, although he discontinued building, expended large sums in the decoration and improvement of the park and home grounds. The succeeding dukes having rarely resided at Worksop, the shrubberies, till within the last few years, had been much neglected; and the greater part of the park has been parcelled out into farming portions, as it at present remains.

About a quarter of a mile south of Worksop, on the right-hand side of the road to Newark, is the principal entrance to the park, by a pair of small iron gates, between a couple of ill-shapen pillars, adjoining the right of which there is a heavy octagon lodge: the whole arrangement, instead of harmonizing, as it ought, with the style and character of the house, is, on the contrary, as heavy and unpleasing an object as can well be conceived.

Having passed about a score yards beyond the entrance along the inner road, the park

\* The memory of the old duchess was highly cherished by those who knew her. I was amused to hear an old man, whom half a century's connection with the family, as a servant, a tenant, and a pensioner, had justly taught to be grateful, declare, that the three greatest women whom God Almighty ever created, were Catharine, Empress of Russia, Queen Elizabeth, and Mary, Duchess of Norfolk! Paine, too, the architect of the house, thus records his eulogy:—“Alas! the calamitous deaths of the honourable Thomas Howard, and of the honourable Edward Howard, sons of the honourable Philip Howard, brother to the late duke, and the then advanced age of

the duke, could not fail to shock the almost invincible fortitude of the good duchess; she visibly declined, and soon after it pleased God to call her grace to his heavenly mansion, there, no doubt, to reward her for her well-spent life,—a life constantly employed in promoting the good of mankind, in alleviating the miseries of the poor, and supporting the amiable dignity of this branch of the Howard family. Her grace's memory is, and ever will be, gratefully impressed on the mind of the author, whose highest pride it is to have had the honour of so rare patrons as the late Duke and Duchess of Norfolk.”—*Paine's Architecture*.

scenery opens delightfully upon the eye: to the left, and in the front, are some fine clumps of trees; while to the right, on the outside, the prospect of the country exhibits a landscape, rich, sylvan, and open, and, depending on the peculiar state of the atmosphere, presents, in general, an extensive, and frequently a charming side scene to the picture. On approaching the first line of wooden bars by which the park is here intersected, and owing to a slight declination of the road, the remote scenery to the right disappears, and a fine sweep of wooded upland, to the left, environs the *castle farm*, of which a glimpse is now obtained: and, from this point, what can be seen of the red-tiled roofs of the town, presents a striking and not unharmonious contrast with the deep green of the trees, especially when the whole effect is softened by the light of a summer sunset. After passing another of the temporary enclosures, the visitor finds himself quite surrounded with trees, and his view bounded by the park: here, again, the manor farm presents itself, and from this point, the defined and entire appearance of its castellated character, renders it a very pleasing and ornamental object. On approaching to within a few hundred yards of the outer barrier of the mansion, the wood thickens, and the dark and heavy masses of oak, of elm, and beech, beneath which the road runs, are sweetly relieved to the eye, by the bright shrubbery patches, now visible, and the still more brilliant effect of some jungles of "yellow blossomed furze." I am aware that the presence of this shrub has been decried as too glaring; but certainly here it formed a very grateful contrast with the shadowy gloom of the overhanging foliage, and the effect of which was perhaps heightened by the gaiety of my fair companion, who thus apostrophised it:—

"—— What more noble than the vernal furze,  
With golden baskets hung? Approach it not,  
For every blossom has a troop of swords  
Drawn to defend it. 'Tis the treasury  
Of Fays and Fairies. Here they nightly meet,  
Each with a burnish'd king-cup in his hand,  
And quaff the subtile ether."—HURDIS.

The visitor, who would wish to see what remains of the original character of the park, must now take the Welbeck road, as it is called, and which goes off to the left hand. The park, as before observed, contains about 1100 acres, mostly under cultivation, and is consequently intersected by enclosure fences. These, although in general only a light railing, are, by their right lined and angular disposition, eminently destructive of picturesque beauty: this is more especially the case when the crops are on the ground; for, however glorious to the agriculturist a level field of fine corn may appear, to the eye of taste it produces an unpleasant effect, when the line of its surface is seen, as often it is, to constitute the regular base of a piece of sylvan scenery, whose irregular summit only requires a corresponding ground site to render it perfectly beautiful. Some portions, however, of the park, retain their original character, in some of the less perishable features. Fine oaks are still to be seen; clumps of elm and beech trees, exhibiting charming varieties of that arrangement, which is most pleasing to an eye that delights to wander over an outline, gently undulated above and broken below, and which Gilpin has happily defined to con-

sist in "an irregular base, forming bays and promontories," are yet to be traced: but the few deer which remain, being confined to an enclosure of about seventy acres, appear to be wanting; and however the wooded eminences present a magnificence and variety of contour, which is not affected by the cultivation below, yet to a person viewing the distant physiognomy of the general picture, and then turning to the details close around him, the impression is—a want of space. The sight which has expatiated freely over the unbounded summit, feels confined and offended by the proximity of a corn field, or the rails of a grazing plot.

I am a lover of flowers; not only of the more exquisite and pleasing kinds, which abound hereabouts,\* but likewise of those rougher and generally less admired varieties, which often enter gratuitously into the composition of park scenery. Among these, the thistle, the burdock, the fern, and the fox-glove, frequently hold a place. The two former, I have scarcely ever seen out of keeping, or not to admire them; the fern, an elegant weed, is sometimes unsightly in patches, but there are spots, especially in the western section of Worksop park, where it justifies the encomium of Gilpin, and serves admirably to unite the higher plants with the ground, while its bright green hue in summer, and its ochre tint in autumn join each season with its correspondent tinge. The fox-glove, a favourite of our youth, I have seldom recognised without pleasure, when properly situated or accompanied; it then appears like Flora's sentinel, placed over the lesser flowers, but standing, as I noticed, a number of them together, like soldiers under a review, I confess they pleased me much less than they would have done, had I seen them rising through the bracken, or accompanying the brushwood on the tumuli here to be seen. To return to the house.

\* I may be permitted here to observe, on authority better than my own, that the Flora of Worksop is not only rich in specimens of most, if not all the plants growing in the county, but that among them are some of the rarer and more interesting varieties. To a common observer, this variety is pleasing. Returning from Welbeck one evening, [June 23, 1825,] through Worksop park, I picked up, for the amusement of my companion, from the bottom and sides of a ditch by the path, a posy of leaves and flowers, which, on reaching home, we ascertained to be the following:—1. *Epilobium angustifolium*. Willow herb. 2. *Stachys sylvatica*. Hedge nettle, wound wort. 3. *Cardamine pratensis*. Cuckow flower. 4. *Scrophularia nodosa*. Fig wort. 5. *Blechnum boreale*. Spleen wort. 6. *Erica vulgaris*. Common ling. 7. *Potentilla anserina*. Goose grass. 8. *Pedicularis palustris*. Louse wort. 9. *Sambucus cbuluse*. Dwarf elder. 10. *Samolus valrandis*. Water pimpernel. Brookweed. 11. *Potentilla aurea*. Golden cinquefoil. 12. *Galium pusillum*. Ladies bedstraw. 13. *Lychnis floecuculi*. Ragged Robin. 14. *Equisetum sylvaticum*. Horse tail. 15. *Lotus corniculatum*. Horned lotus. 16. *Valeriana dioica*. Small valerian. 17. *Veronica anagalis*. Water speedwell. 18. *Valeriana officinalis*. Common valerian. 19. *Hypericum quadrangulum*. St. John's wort. 20. *Gnaphalium sylvaticum*. Cud weed. 21. *Orchis latifolia*. Orchis. 22.

*Mentha palustris*. Marsh mint. 23. *Caltha palustris*. Marsh marygold. 24. *Ranunculus flammula*. Crow foot. 25. *Epilobium hirsutum*. Codlings and cream. 26. *Spiraea filapendula*. Drop wort. 27. *Ulmaria*. Meadow sweet. 28. *Myosotis palustris*. Scorpion grass. This last flower, from its beautiful small blue petals, and its fanciful appellation of—"Vergifs mich nicht," "Forget me not," which, with its sentimental etymology, were imported from Germany a few years ago, is an universal favourite, and grows in great plenty hereabouts, some of the gutters in the park being at this time literally blue over with it.

The study of botany might here be pursued with great facility, and though I grant that the systematic arrangements of the science are quite artificial, and perfectly unconnected with the beauty and even the love of flowers in general, yet I cannot help recommending it to the notice of those of the "better sex," who may seek an elegant, and, at the same time, a scientific amusement.

Of entomology, if I must here decline the encomium, I may remark, that even this science has found a student here, and that student, as himself assured me, no inconsiderable portion of delight in his acquaintance with the insect varieties of the neighbourhood.



On approaching the mansion, by the road previously described, the visitor enters the extensive yard of offices built by Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, through the large iron gates\* under the clock-house, and opposite to which, another pair of handsome gates, admits him to the lawn in front of the house; and from this green plot, which is separated from the yard by an immense screen of light architecture, the visitor will see the style of the building to the best advantage. This facade, combining elegance and grandeur in a high degree, is 303 feet in length, and built of a handsome white free-stone, got on the estate. In the centre, a portico makes a small projection, consisting of six very striking Corinthian pillars, fluted, resting on the rustics, and supporting the tympanum and the pediment, upon the points of the triangle of the latter, are placed three handsome statues, and the space between them is occupied with emblematical carvings allusive to the high family alliances.† A light and elegant ballustrade surmounts the edifice, from the tympanum to the projecting part at the ends, which mark the terminations in the style of wings: upon this are placed a series of vases, executed with fine taste, and disposed in the most admirable order. To adopt the sentiment of Mr. Young: "This front, upon the whole, is undoubtedly very beautiful; there is a noble simplicity in it which must please every eye, without raising any idea of want of ornament."‡ Magnificent as this appears, the visitor is astonished, when he is told, that it comprises only one side of the intended quadrangle of 300 feet each face, consequently, about one-fifth of the original design, which was to embrace two interior courts, and would, if finished, be probably the largest house in England.§ Payne was the architect; and it is generally allowed

\* Over this entrance, at present the station of a stone lion, it was the intention of the late Duchess Mary to have placed an equestrian statue of that Earl of Surrey who was with the Scotch King, James IV., at the famous battle of Flodden, a representation of which action was to have been exhibited in a pannel under the figure.

† The following description and explanation of the sculptures in this pediment, as given by Paine, in his illustration of the admirable engraving of it by Grignion, may be acceptable:—"The three animals denote some of the well known ancient alliances of this noble family: they are also emblematical: the lion is an emblem of strength and courage, the horse of generous ardour, and the dog of fidelity and vigilance. The motto given by the Duke of Norfolk observes, that virtue only is invincible. On the west side of the principal group is a distant view of the old mansion house, which, with all the furniture, was consumed by fire in October, 1761. The evening sun, the broken columns, and shattered trees, are expressive of the devastation occasioned by that calamitous accident. On the east side, the whole view appears to be unhurt, or restoring to its former beauty, which is expressed by the flourishing oaks, the sheep feeding, and the ploughman pursuing his labours. In the foreground of this part is represented the plan of the present building, and some of the instruments employed in erecting an edifice. The three statues over the pediment, are, divine virtue in the centre, who is represented with wings, signifying the height to which she soars, and the

other two statues represent peace and plenty, as emblems of hospitality." These statues, with the devices above described, were the invention of Mary, Duchess of Norfolk, who executed the designs with her own hand.

‡ Young's Agricultural Tour, vol. i. p. 328.

§ In a magnificent work, printed in 1783, comprising plans, elevations, and sections of noblemen's and gentlemen's houses, &c., executed by James Paine, may be seen sixteen plates, illustrative of the original design of this edifice. Besides plans of the principal floor, the chamber floor, and the attic story, there are given very splendid plates of the elevations of the different fronts; especially of the south, or intended principal front, which was to have been 307 feet long. Like the north front, this was also to have been crowned by a pediment, ornamented with statues, and a sculpture, representing the vision of King Solomon, (1 Kings, chap. iii. verse 5—14,) which, with the other devices, were the invention of her Grace the Duchess of Norfolk. This front would have faced a beautiful lawn, through which at present a rivulet runs, but which was intended to have been greatly enlarged, and across which it was intended to have built a handsome bridge.

The intended west front, the north pavilion of which is built, contained in the pediment a sculpture, representing the conflict of Hercules, with statues of Jupiter, Minerva, and Apollo.

that the arrangements of the interior are no less admirable, than the outside decorations are characteristically proper. The front entrance, is into a vestibule, with the grand staircase in front, and the superior apartments to the left. In the general plan of the house, the present front, which is to the north, was designed for the back front, and here are ten rooms below, and twelve above, with twenty-six in the attic-story: on the south side are two galleries, one used for breakfasting, the other as a billiard-room. That portion of the house originally used as a chapel, has been pulled down, to make way for some alterations at present going on.

Of the pictures, and other internal decorations of the house, I must content myself with saying generally, that they will well repay the visitor who has time and taste to examine them as they deserve;\* I cannot, however, omit to notice, what is generally considered as the first, and,

\* Mrs. Wake, a late housekeeper, is said to have compiled an historical and descriptive catalogue of the pictures at the manor, and which was probably used by the editors of "The Beauties of England and Wales." The whole collection has recently been re-arranged, under the direction of Mr. Bone: and I am indebted to Mr. Medland, preceptor to the sons of the Earl of Surrey, with his lordship's approbation, for the subjoined notices of the principal pictures in the rooms usually shewn to strangers: of course, besides the omission in this list of many deemed of minor importance, there are others of rare interest and exquisite beauty, in the private family apartments.

#### IN THE RED DRAWING-ROOM.

1. Elizabeth Stuart, Countess of Arundel, wife of Henry-Frederick, Earl of Arundel, and eldest daughter of Esme Stuart, Duke of Lennox.—*Vandyke*.
2. Charles Howard, Earl of Nottingham, Lord High Admiral of England; born in 1536, died 1624.—*Mytens*.
3. Philip, Cardinal Howard, third son of Henry-Frederick, Earl of Arundel; born in 1629, died 1694.
4. Thomas Howard, second Duke of Norfolk, Lord High Treasurer and Earl Marshal of England; aged 70, born in 1453, died 1524, May 21, at Framlingham Castle, buried at Thetford.—*Holbein*.
5. Lord Thomas Howard, second son of Henry, sixth Duke of Norfolk, and father of Thomas and Edward, eighth and ninth Dukes of Norfolk; died in 1689, being shipwrecked on Nov. 9, on his voyage from Ireland to France.—*Sir Joshua Reynolds, copied from an original*.
6. Mary Blount, Duchess of Norfolk, wife of Edward, ninth Duke of Norfolk, and daughter of Edward Blount, Esq. (the friend and correspondent of Pope; ) died 27th May, 1773.—*John Vanderbank*.
7. The Hon. Bernard Howard, eighth son of Henry-Frederick, Earl of Arundel.
8. Thomas, third Duke of Norfolk.
9. Bernard Edward, twelfth Duke of Norfolk, when young.—*Gainsborough*.

12. Edward, ninth Duke of Norfolk; born in 1685, died September 20, 1777, aged 92.—*John Vanderbank*.

13. The Hon. Charles Howard, of Greystock, fourth son of Henry-Frederick, Earl of Arundel; died March 31, 1713.

14. Edward, ninth Duke of Norfolk.

15. Alatheia Talbot, Countess of Arundel, wife of Thomas, Earl of Arundel, youngest daughter and co-heiress of Gilbert, seventh Earl of Shrewsbury, represented in the picture gallery at Arundel House, in the Strand.—*Paul Vansomer*. 1618.

16. Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, (the poet;) born about 1518, beheaded 1547.

17. Henry Fitzallan, the last Earl of Arundel of that name, father of Mary, Duchess of Norfolk; died in 1571, (whose mother was Lady Catharine Grey, sister to Lady Jane Grey.)

18. Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, (who collected the Arundel marbles, &c.; ) born July 7, 1592, in his statue gallery, at Arundel House, in the Strand; died October 4, 1646, at Padua.—*Paul Vansomer*. 1618.

19. Charlotte, Countess of Surrey.—*Sir Thomas Lawrence*.

#### TAPESTRY DRAWING-ROOM.

Gobelin's Tapestry, representing the productions of the four quarters of the globe.

Two Flower Pieces.—*Boschaert*.

#### DINING-ROOM.

1. St. Roque, on Pilgrimage.—*By a Spanish Painter*.

2. Dido and Eneas, setting out for the hunt.—*By a French Painter*.

3. Elizabeth Talbot, Countess of Kent, second daughter and co-heiress of Gilbert, seventh Earl of Shrewsbury; died 7th Dec. 1651.

4 and 5. Two Landscapes, by D'Artois; the figures by Teniers.

Over the chimney-piece, an exquisite Chinoise Scene, by *De Brugn*.

indeed, one of the principal objects of attraction—the staircase, which occupies an area of 37 feet by 25 feet. The walls present a series of compartments, painted in *Chiaro Scuro*, by Thomas de Bruyn, a Fleming, and are intended to represent the arts and sciences; and the light and shade are so admirably and happily managed, that the whole has the appearance of figures executed in bold relief, rather than with a pencil on a smooth surface.

The north lawn above-mentioned, as extending in front of the house, is bounded by some very fine trees, amongst which the Spanish chesnuts tower to a surprising height, and when in flower have a very magnificent appearance, contrasting finely the light and fringy character of the acacias amidst which they grow. Beneath the umbrage of these trees, the members of the family usually pass to the gardens, and it was a delightful sight for me to witness from the front windows, three of the children, Lord Fitzallan, Edward, and Mary, amusing themselves here, in the innocence of their years; altogether unencumbered with anxieties about the high stations, which, in due time, I sincerely hope and pray, they may not only inherit, but adorn. The gardens include about four and a half acres, and are admirably laid out and managed, though not corresponding with the expectations which the house is calculated to raise in the mind of a stranger. The gardener has a neat residence adjoining the green-house, and the hot-house is large, and admirably arranged: while the vines, which are in a state of the most luxuriant growth, are trained, not only overhead beneath the glazed roof, but likewise upon a sort of table-trellis along the middle of the house. Beside the vine-runners, which constitute especially the pride and wealth of these conservatories, there are usually other rare and curious exotics, which encrease by their beauty or peculiarity, the interest of the stove: among these, I noticed, when visiting this place, a fine specimen of the *Superba Gloriosa*, with its singular flowers, one of which, Mr. Acon, the amiable and intelligent gardener, had the kindness to gather for me.

6. Henry, sixth Duke of Norfolk; died at Arundel House, Jan. 11, 1684, aged 55.—*Sir Godfrey Kneller*.

#### LIBRARY.

1. Bernard Edward, Duke of Norfolk.—*Pickersgill*.
2. Henry Frederick, Earl of Arundel; died at Arundel House, April 7, 1652.—*Vandyke*.
3. Thomas and Alatheia, Earl and Countess of Arundel, pointing to Madagascar, on a globe.
4. and 5. Landscapes, one with the figures of Narcissus and Echo.
6. Henry Charles, Earl of Surrey, in the dress he wore as train-bearer to George IV. at his coronation.
7. Landscape, with the figures of Paris and Cœnone.—*Hayton*.
8. Landscape.
9. Charles I.—*Vandyke*.
10. Philip Howard, Earl of Arundel: he was Earl of Surrey till the attainder of his father Thomas, seventh Duke of Norfolk, in 1572; Earl of Arundel, as heir of his grandfather, Henry Fitzallan, Earl of Arundel, 1580.

The last public act performed by King Philip, was attending his baptism in the Queen's Chapel at Westminster,

where he was baptized by Heath, Archbishop of York, who was the other godfather, and Elizabeth, Duchess-Dowager of Norfolk, the godmother. King Philip departed the same day for the siege of St. Quinten, and never returned to England. This Earl of Arundel died in the Tower, after ten years' imprisonment, on the 19th October, 1595, in the 39th year of his age.

11. Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, (the poet)—*copied from a Holbien, at Windsor Castle, by Scriven*.

12. Christiana, Duchess of Milan, and Dowager Duchess of Lorraine, niece to Charles the V., and daughter to Christian, King of Denmark.—Supposed to be a picture painted for Henry VIII., by *Holbein*.

13. Lady Belgrave.—*Ross. Copied from Sir Thomas Lawrence*.

14. James Howard, Lord Mowbray and Maltravers; died at Ghent, aged 18.

15. Henry, seventh Duke of Norfolk, on horseback.

16. Jane Bickerton, Duchess of Norfolk, second wife of Henry, sixth Duke of Norfolk, and daughter of James Bickerton, gent.

17. One of the family of Umpton, in the costume of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

From the garden, a walk of a few yards brings us to an enclosed pleasure-ground, which used to be the pride and glory of the place. Mr. Arthur Young visited this place in 1770, when on his agricultural tour; at the time of that visit, every thing was in perfection, and he has described the whole with a glowing pen: time and neglect have indeed marred much of the beauty of the original picture, yet still the visitor will enjoy a melancholy delight, in tracing the lingering resemblance as it at present subsists. "Not far from the house," says he, "is a pleasure-ground, laid out and decorated with great taste; an artificial lake and river are made, in which nature is very happily imitated, and the ground surrounding laid out in a very agreeable manner. Near the entrance is a *Gothic* bench, in a shady sequestered spot, looking immediately on a creek of the water, overhung with wood; the shore broken and rocky: at a little distance, the banks spread themselves, and open a fine bend of the water, surrounded with trees; and at a distance, in the very bosom of a dark wood, the water winds through the arches of a most elegant bridge; the effect as happy as can be conceived, for the sun shining upon the bridge, gives a brilliance which contrasts admirably with the brownness of the surrounding groves. From this view, a walk winds to the left through the wood, to a lawn, at the bottom of which, to the right, flows the water, which is seen as you move along very beautifully; on the left, at the upper part of the opening, is a *Tuscan* temple, properly situated for viewing a part of the lake. Other serpentine walks lead from hence to different parts of the ground; one to the new menagerie, and another down to the bridge, which is, in itself, very light and pretty; but the termination of the water being seen at no greater distance than four or five yards, is rather unlucky, because it destroys the idea of all propriety to build a bridge\* over a water which may be coasted round in half-a-second; but, I apprehend, it is intended to carry the water farther, to remove the conclusion out of sight. After crossing this bridge, you find the bank's rising ground scattered with trees and shrubs; the effect is truly beautiful. At a little distance is a slight trickling fall of water, in the midst of wood, just sufficient for the neighbourhood of a temple, in a sequestered spot, where the water is heard, but not seen. Upon the whole, this shrubbery will amuse any person, whose taste leads them to admire the soft touches of nature's pencil, scenes of the *beautiful*, unmixed with the *sublime*."†

The truth and force of this last sentiment is still felt by every visitor; for, although the lake may have lost some of its beauty and appendages through neglect, and of the menagerie, not one stone remains upon another; the trees have been encreasing in growth, the chesnuts and the larches have shot up to a glorious height, the former flowered to the top, the latter foliated to the ground; the acacias, with their light pinnated, and the Portugal laurels, with their dark oval leaves, are in a most thriving state, while the tulip-trees, attaining a most ample growth, present their gorgeous array of yellow blossoms to the eye of the delighted visitor: the smooth green-sward walks, the bowery depth of the wood, the sequestered temple, and the rustic seat, all invite the solitary wanderer, or the social group, to linger as long as possible, in these delightful shades, perhaps the reader may think I have lingered too long already; I confess it is with reluctance, I

\* The bridge, of which a representation is given in Mr. Young's book, as well as the Gothic seat, have been removed several years.

† Young's Tour, vol. i. p. 332.

turn from the contemplation of these scenes, to present a few brief notices of the hamlets in the parish.

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## HAMLETS IN THE PARISH.

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### Gateford

is situated at a short distance from Worksop, on the Sheffield road. This place gave name to a family anciently seated there. John de Gateford, 6 Ed. III., held the fourth part of a knight's fee in Gateford, nigh Worksop, of Thomas de Furnival: he died 13th March, 1346, having previously made his will, which was proved 26th June, 1347: he gives his soul to God Almighty, and his body to be buried in the porch of the parish church of Worksop. Another John, probably nephew of the last-mentioned, and described as John Gaiteforth, of Gaitforth, Esq., died 8th February, 1464, after making his will, proved 7th March, 1464, in which he gives his soul to God Almighty, his creator and saviour, and his body to be buried in the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, in the parish church of Worksop, against his uncle. Thomas de Gayteford, 40 Ed. III., held this manor of another Thomas de Furnival, by a service similar to that first mentioned. John de Gateford sat in parliament, as a knight of the shire, 47 Ed. III. A person of his name was returned 4 Rich. II.; again, 13 Rich. II.; again, 16 Rich. II.; and lastly, 1 Hen. IV. This, I presume, is John de Gayteford, who died on the kalends of February, 4 Hen. IV.; who made his will, proved 17th March, 1406; in which, after giving his soul to God Almighty, and his body to be buried in the parish church of Worksop, between the two pillars there standing, he bequeathed to the prior and convent of Worksop, in name of his mortuary, one of his best horses, with bridle, saddle, and other furniture, and warlike habiliments. The family continued here some time longer. There was a fine levied the day after All Souls'-day, 16 Hen. VII., between Edward Grysacre, clerk, and Richard Bristowe, querests; and Thomas Knight, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, and John Townley, knight, and Isabella, his wife, deforcients, of the manors of Gateford and Harwell, with appurtenances in more than twenty others manors. The premises were settled on the above Thomas and Elizabeth, and their heirs-male; remainder to the heirs of Elizabeth; remainder to the above Isabella Townley, and her heirs; with several other remainders

to the family of Gateford, issuing with a remainder to the right heirs of John Gateford, father of the above Elizabeth Knight, for ever.\*

Gateford next came into the family of Lascelles. George Lascelles, Esq., 37 Hen. VIII., claimed against Richard Townley, Esq., the manor of Gateford, and others, with the appurtenances: he was successful, and his family remained long seated here in great respectability: being neighbours, they were on intimate terms with the family of the Earl of Shrewsbury, to whose munificence they subsequently became indebted. Bryan Lascelles was one of the knights of the shire, 31 Eliz. His son, George Lascelles, had a daughter, Elizabeth, who was his heir, and married to Sir Francis Rodes, of Barlborough: whose grandson, Sir Francis Rodes, baronet, was high sheriff of the county, 1671. After remaining some time with the last-mentioned family, the estate was purchased by the late Mr. Vessey, whose father occupied a farm, originally part of the Kingston estate, called Collinthewaite Grange, near Welbeck, and lately ceded to the Duke of Portland. William, the eldest son, was the first lessee of Gateford hall and farm, under Mr. Rodes; he died without issue, and was succeeded by Henry, the next brother, who became purchaser about thirty years ago: in the year 1810, he died unmarried, and was succeeded by John, the youngest brother, who had resided upon a large farm at Aughton, in the parish of Aston, purchased for him by his father, about seventy years ago, out of the estate of the late Lord Holderness. John dying on the 2d of April, 1823, bequeathed his estates, &c., to his sister, the only survivor of this very respectable family, to hold during her natural life; and then to Henry Machon, Esq., of Gateford Hill, whose mother was a Miss Vessey, sister of the late John Vessey, Esq., of North Laiths, near Rufford, and cousin to the Vesseys of Gateford.

Ann Swan, of Eakring, first wife, — Henry Machon, of Gateford Hill, — Mary Swan, of Lincoln, second wife.  
died 1814. Esq. wife.

Elizabeth Susannah, only child.

*Arms of Swan.*—Gules, a fess vair, between three swans' necks, erased argent.—*Crest.* A swan, with wings erect, pruning its breast, argent.—*Motto.* Auxilium ab alto. Such, at least, I take to be the design of a seal impression before me.

Miss Vessey at present resides at the pretty vine-mantled mansion, called Gateford Hall, which is modernized out of a portion, and occupies the site of the ancient residence of the Lascelles family: part of the kitchen, and some considerable portion of the moat, are all the traces that remain of the original state of the place.

Gateford Hill presents a handsome house, recently built by Henry Machon, Esq.: and when the plantations shall have risen sufficiently to relieve the too glaring whiteness of the building, the whole will be an exceedingly ornamental object from the road. There is a large brick house, the residence of Mr. Eddison.



SHIREOAKS CHAPEL, BUILT 1800.

## Shireoaks.

*Hic nemus, hic gelidi fontes, hic mollia prata.*

SHIREOAKS, is a hamlet, about three miles west from Worksop, and one of the extreme limits of the parish in that direction. This appellation, by which it has been distinguished for at least seven centuries, probably originated in a grove or number of oaks, which, from their situation, might be remarkable for ascertaining the boundaries, or determining the junction of the adjacent counties. In latter times, this place has derived celebrity from the great age and enormous growth of a single tree, which, from the fact of its having found a place in several maps, has been supposed to nominate the hamlet, from its own designation of "*The Shireoak*:" the fact, however, is, that it is called "*Shiraks*," in the plural, both in the confirmation charter of Richard de Lovetot to the priory of Worksop, and likewise in the subsequent grants to that house; so that it seems most probable, while the rest of the sylvan fraternity perished through decay, or fell beneath the axe, this goodly tree, either out of veneration for its size, or respect for the peculiarity of its situation, was permitted to survive. Be this as it may, the forest monarch was standing and alive, at the beginning of the last century, the wonder and admiration of beholders. Henry Homer certified an account of its existence and dimensions to the philosophic John Evelyn, Esq.,

who, in the last edition of his "SYLVA," thus notices it, among other instances of the "pulchritude and procerity" of its species in this neighbourhood:—"Shire-oak is a tree, *standing* in the ground, late Sir Thomas Hewett's, about a mile from Worksop park, which drops into three shires, viz. York, Nottingham, and Derby; and the distance from bough end to bough end, is 90 feet, or 30 yards. This circumference will contain near 707 square yards, sufficient to shade 235 horses."\* Mr. Gilpin observes, that its own dignity was equalled by the dignity of its station; and that, in consequence of its honourable office of fixing the boundary of these large counties, it was equally respected through the domains of them all; and was known far and wide, by the distinction of the *Shireoak*, by which appellation it was marked among cities, towns, and rivers, in all the larger maps of the kingdom.

Wishing to be informed of the exact site originally occupied by this tree, I called upon the Rev. G. Saville, curate of Shireoaks chapel, who kindly undertook to walk with me, a distance of almost two miles, to point out what tradition and probability regard as the identical spot. After pursuing our way for a considerable distance, along what was *once* a magnificent avenue, in a southerly direction from the hall, and through the wood, we crossed a field or two, at the extremity of the estate, when my conductor pointed out a fine thriving young oak, which is regarded as the successor and representative of the ancient tree. This authority for the exact situation, was given on the testimony of the Rev. George King, rector of Whitwell, and is sufficiently corroborated by local considerations; as, first, this is the exact station accorded to the tree, in Morden's map, which accompanies Gibson's edition of Camden; second, at this point, the three counties unite,—an angle of Thorp common, a limb of Whitwell parish, and the extremity of the Shireoaks estate, lying respectively in the shires of York, Derby, and Nottingham, being found to converge here; and, third, there does not appear to be any other situation equally probable,—nor, indeed, can it easily be conceived how the three counties could converge in more than one place.†

\* Sylva. Hunter's Edit. vol. ii. p. 199. There is at present remaining in one of the avenues, and a short distance from Shireoaks Hall, the ruin of an oak tree, large enough for the hermitage of another *St. Simon Stock*, being about five fathoms in circumference, quite hollow, and retaining a roof which has once been thatched. Credulous Fancy would fain consider this to have been the stock of the celebrated vicinal oak: it was, however, brought from Houghton Park, almost a century ago, and placed as a curiosity in its present situation.

† Since the above was written, I have been favoured with the following note, from the rector of Whitwell, to whose gentlemanly attentions I am indebted for other communications on this subject:—

"London, October 10, 1825.

"DEAR SIR,—I was very sorry, that, during my late short visit at Whitwell, I had not time to reply to your letter of

September the 30th. Last Monday, I made it my business to see the two oldest men in my parish, William Yates, aged 92, and Marshall Fells, aged 82. From the former, I extracted very little information; he had heard of such a tree, but never saw it, and knew nothing about its downfall. The latter was much more intelligent, he was born at Gateford, and when a boy or young man, had worked at Steetley for a few years: he says he very well remembers the tree; had seen it very many times; but he throws me all abroad about the *situation* of it. I always thought the site was that which Mr. Saville pointed out to you at a corner of Firbeck Common. When I first went to Whitwell, I was so informed; and when I went the perambulation of the parish in 1807, my belief was confirmed, and we stopt at the tree as a boundary: but Marshall Fells informs me, that the tree was near to Steetley Lane, and stood just *within* Mr. Hewitt's park. Now that on Firbeck Common (near a small gate or stile) stands at a considerable distance from the park wall, and also considerably



Thoroton must be mistaken, when he mentions this hamlet as being given to Worksop priory by William de Lovetot, the founder,\* as it does not appear among other donations in his charter. In the confirmation of the gifts of his wife Emma, by their son Richard, it first occurs, as recited in the priory grants. Thoroton thus sums up the Shireoaks property:—the mill, and several dwelling-houses, and bovates of land, and the land between the water and the river towards the south, and the way which leads to *Holm-ker* from the ford, which was by the Potter's house, and twenty and two acres beyond the said river from the south, between the way of *Holm-ker*, and the bound of *Thorpe* and *Colman-croft*.†

In the year 1458, the prior and convent of Worksop leased their grange and manor of Shireoaks to Henry Ellis, Esq. and Dame Lucy his wife. The original instrument of this contract was in the possession of the late Richard Rawlinson, L.L.D. and F.R.S., who had an engraved fac-simile of the whole lease executed on copper; and which, after his death, was deposited, with his other antiquarian effects in the Bodleian Library. By the kindness of the Rev. Bulkely Bandinell, an impression of that plate lies before me, and which, it appears, may be read literally as follows:—" *This Endent*. made betwvne Charles ye P'or of Wyrkesopp, and ye

from Worksop, than the site as mentioned by old Marshall Fells. With respect to the downfall of the tree in question, I could get no accurate information from him as to the date thereof. From all I could gather in conversation with him, I conclude it could not have been earlier than 1765—60 years ago. I think it probable you might meet in Worksop with some aged person or persons, who might give you more satisfactory information than I have yet been able to obtain.

" I remain, dear Sir,

" Your very obedient servant,

" GEO. KING."

Many persons recollect the latter-mentioned tree, which stood on the margin of the Shireoaks estate, and the stool of which was to be seen till within the last two years; but this appears to have stood, not at the county limit, but only in the manorial boundary; and I still think that the tree described in the text, has the best claim to be considered as pointing out the situation of the ancient Shireoak.

\* Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 400.

† Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 400. Having mentioned the substance of the above paragraph to the Rev. G. Savile, he was induced to communicate to me some remarks, made on the spot, and which I will take the liberty of presenting in his words:—" There is a mill at this place, and a cottage by it, called the *Mill House*, but neither of the structures exhibit marks of antiquity. You will recollect, after parting with me at the Hall, you went along two fields, that you then came to the bridge over the stream, and turned immediately to the right, along a meadow, bounded by the canal on the left: that meadow is called "*Prior's Meadow*;" and, a little above, to

the left, and northward of the bridge, is a field, called *Stolman Croft*, which, I fancy, must be your Colman Croft. The bovates you mention, were, I take it, on the south side of the rivulet, and might extend to a lone farm house, called *Holm Car*; at no great distance from which, heaps of cinders have been found,—an indication that there has been some kind of oven or furnace." This last circumstance indicates the vicinity of "the Potter's house;" and, with respect to the antiquity of the mill, the conjecture is correct, the present structure having been erected within the last fifty years. It probably, however, occupies the site of the priory mill; for not only have the ancient mills, in general, occupied their stations for a long time, but, according to Mr. Ellis, in his introduction to *Doomsday*, even the sites of such as are mentioned in that record are retained; so that, continues he, there is scarcely a place marked as having a mill at the conquest, which is not so distinguished at present.

A century ago, the mill at Shireoaks was a shed of the simplest construction, erected over two pair of stones, turned by an under-float water wheel. At that period, and for many years afterwards, the machines, now in general use, for dressing the flour, were unknown; the little that was required to be finer, was sifted by the hand. It may be added, that payment for grinding was a certain portion of the grain in hand, called the *multure*: this toll in Shireoaks old mill, fifty years ago, was a quarter at the strike; i. e. three quarters at the load of three bushels, and this was taken first out of every sack, and put into a receptacle, with three holes, and as many partitions, for wheat, mestlin, and barley, respectively, and which used to be sold to the work people of Mr. Hewet at a moderate price. The *multure* now taken, is, I believe, fixed, by Act of Parliament, at a quarter and half *per* bushel.

Convent of ye sam place, on ye on pty, and Herry Elys, Esq'er and Dam' Luce his wife, on ye ops pty witness and recordes yat ye said p'or and convnt haff grnted and lettyn to ferme to ye forsaied Herry Elys and Dam' Luce, his wife, thair grawnge and man' called Skyroks, in ye p'yrsh of Wyrkesopp, with all ye landes and medewes p'teyng to ye said grange, and with all tends, (tenths) of corn and hay longyng to ye said grawnge, as othr fermors han had and taken in tyme past to haf and to hold ye said grange wt ye landes and middewis, tendes, and all manr of p'fetta, comodites and avayles p'tenyng to ye said grange, to ye forsaied Herry and Dam' Luce fro ye feste of ye ynativitye of Saynt John Baptist, in ye yer, to on of our lord a thousand liij<sup>c</sup> seven and fifty, yt is to say, ye — ye and lefyng of ye termes of John Douse, now ffermor, to ye ende and terme of twelfe yrs next folwyng, and fully to be fullfilled, yeldyng and paying yerly, enduryng ye said time to ye said p'or and convnt one and thrtty quart's of whete, copetently clensid and m'kett mett; also, ye said p'or and convnt sall haf yerly xii (*qu?*) schepes pasturd and fodrd oppon ye grond, and demayn lands p'tenyng to ye said grange. And ye forsaied Herry and Dam' Luce sall paye and gif meatecorn to ye schepes, yt is to say, on 'third weke two London bussells of rye; also, he sall deliv' yerly to the said scheps three quarts of otes for ye said schepe, and half a qurt for hym self. And ye said Herry and his wife sall carry ye said whete to ye garn' of ye said p'or and convnt in thair place of Wyrkesopp, at such tymes as thai haf most nede, yt to wt r'sonable warnyng afore; also, ye said Herry and his wife sall vphold and repaire wt thakk and mort' all ye howses of ye said grange thekid wt strey; and also, he sall fynd meate and drynke to all man' of workemen amending and r'pairyng ye oth' howses thaked wt ston, or mending wt wright crafte; also, thai sall carie ston, tymber, and clay, wt all oth' yt longs to any buenes of ye said granng; also, ye sam' Herry and Dam' Luce, his wife, sall r'saif at ye outr [or ontr] stan land sowen wt whete, barley, pese, and otes, and oten land faloed, as it aperis bi bill endented and [fild sed?] to this endentrs, ye wiche land thai sall delivr at ye ende of ye said trme in like man' and fourme as thai r'saife it; also, thai said Herry and his wife sall deliv' strey thak for ye amending and r'plng of fife cotages in Schiroks next.....to be taken at suche tymes when it is nedeful to ye said howsyng; also, thai said Herry and his wife sal haf sufficiently of wod for housebote and haybote, wt outen wast to be taken on deliv' of ye p'or or of his offic' of his wodds; also, ye said p'or and con'vt sall haff a gate wt a lok and key th' to for thr own ease, so yt ye said Herry be not hurt th'r by gretly. And ye said p'or and convt ye forsaied granng wt ye landes, midowes, tendes, and all or p'fetta and avayles to ye sam granng p'tenyng to ye forsaied



Herry and Dame Luce, his wife, during ye said times, sall warannt and defend. And to all the countes aboufe written on ye p'tye of ye said Herry Elys, and Dam' Luce, his wife, well and truly to be kepид and fulfilled. They bynd thai thair ayres or executors in twenty pownds and s III, to witness of wich thyng air p'ty haff put to yair seales. Gifen at Wyrkesopp, at ye fest of Saynt John Baptist ynativitye ye yere of our Lord a thousand, four hundredreth viii and fifty.

The engraving here given as representing the seal appendant to the above lease, is very similar to the device, still to be traced in one of the windows of Worksop church. The priory has had several seals: perhaps the most ancient was derived from the arms of the Lovetots, viz. argent, a lion rampant parti per fess gules and sable. "The same lion on a field of gold," says Mr. Hunter, "was used as the insignia of the house of Worksop, till another was adopted, formed out of the arms of a later patron, Thomas Nevil, Lord Furnival." The former of these is given in Leland's *Collectanea*; the latter, I suppose, is the variety alluded to by Tanner, viz. argent, a bend gules between six martlets of the same, over all a crozier or. Tanner likewise gives the same golden crozier over a field gules, parted per saltier argent. The editors of the new and splendid edition of the *Monasticon* observe, that "no COMMON SEAL has occurred" in their researches; nor have I met with one. It is, however, a little singular that they should have omitted to notice the one appended to the above document, which was probably the regular *lease seal* of the house, and must have been known to one of the editors at least, as being deposited in the Bodleian Library.

After the dissolution of the Worksop-house, Henry the Eighth granted to Robert Thornhill, Esq. and Hugh Thornhill, gent., all the manor, demesne, or grange, with the appurtenances of Shireoaks, beneath the hamlet of Shireoaks, in the parish of Worksop, and all tythes in those hamlets, of the yearly value of £17: 13: 4d., to hold to them and their heirs, paying yearly for the manor of Shireoaks, 35s. 4½d. It came from Thornehill to Hewitt, a citizen of London: Sir Thomas Hewitt had it. Thus Thoroton.

The Hewets are known by many evidences to be a family of very ancient date, but the first who is clearly ascertained to have had connection with this neighbourhood, is Robert Hewet, Esq. who possessed a considerable estate at Killamarsh, in Derbyshire, in the reign of King Henry VIII.\* He left two sons, viz. Robert, who died without issue; and William, who succeeded his father, and died in 1599, aged 77, leaving four sons, viz. John, Solomon, Thomas, and William.†

\* Of this family was Sir William Hewet, Lord Mayor of London, in 1559, but whether he was brother of this Robert is not certain. Of Sir William we find the following remarkable story in Stowe's *Survey of London*, Vol. II. Book V. p. 133:—"Sir William Hewet, cloth-worker, Mayor, in 1559, son to Edward Hewet, of Wales, in Yorkshire. He died the 6th February, 1566. His wife was the daughter of — Leveson, of Kent. This Mayor was a merchant possessed of a great estate, valued at £6,000 per annum; and was said to have had three sons and one daughter; to which daughter this mischance happened, (the father then lived on London Bridge,) the maid playing with her out of a window over the river Thames, by chance dropped her in, almost beyond expectation of being saved. A young gentleman named Osborne, then apprentice to Sir William, the father, (which Osborne was one of the ancestors of the Duke of Leeds, in a direct line,) at this calamitous accident, immediately leaped in bravely, and saved the child. In memory of which deliverance, and in gratitude, her father afterwards bestowed her in marriage on the

said Mr. Osborne, with a very great dowry: whereof, the late estate of Sir Thomas Fanshaw, in the parish of Barking, in Essex, was a part, as the late Duke of Leeds himself told the Rev. Mr. John Hewet, from whom I have this relation; and together with that estate in Essex, several other lands in the parishes of Harthill and Wales, in Yorkshire, now in the possession of the said most noble family. All this from the old duke's own mouth to the said Mr. Hewet.

"Also, that several persons of quality courted the said young lady, and particularly the Earl of Shrewsbury; but Sir William was pleased to say, Osborne saved her, and Osborne should enjoy her. The late Duke of Leeds and the present family preserve the picture of the said Sir William, in his habit of lord mayor, at Keveton-house, in Yorkshire, to this day, valuing it at £200." Bray saw it there in 1783.

† *Baronetage*, vol. i. p. 168.

Stow gives the long and encomiastic inscription from his monument, once to be seen in old St. Paul's Church, within Farringdon ward,\* and containing also the names of his four sons and two daughters; from the third of these sons, the Shireoaks branch descended.

Fuller, in his list of the Sheriffs of the county, mentions "Thomas Hewet, mil." as filling that office in the third year of Charles First; and to whom he gives for arms, S. a chevron counter-batillée, betwixt three owls argent. This, I suppose, is the Thomas alluded to by Thoroton,† and probably the father of Sir Thomas Hewet, knight, the late owner of this estate. Sir Thomas was born at Shireoaks, the 9th of September, 1656. Having received his preparatory education at Shrewsbury, he was entered at Christ Church, Oxford, where he studied about four years. He then became an officer of the Yeomen of the Guards to King Charles the Second. Leaving the country, he proceeded on his travels through France, Holland, Switzerland, Italy, and Germany. After remaining abroad about five years, he returned to this country, accompanied, it appears, by a wife, atheism, and many eccentricities. He married at Geneva, September 7, 1689, Frances, daughter of Richard Betterton, Esq. of Scudbury, in the county of Kent, and co-heiress of Sir Edward Betterton, bart., of the same place. Sir Thomas was surveyor-general of the woods to King William III., and surveyor-general of the works to George I. He died 9th April 1726, aged 69 years, and was buried at Wales,‡ in Yorkshire, where there is an inscription to his memory, in the church, from which the material particulars of the above account are derived. His wife, Dame Frances Hewet, survived her husband, and went to reside in London, where she was born; and where, after a widowhood of thirty years, she died, January 31, 1756, at the great age of 88. She was interred at Wales, where there is a stone, with an inscription to her me-

\* Stowe's London, p. 364.

† This Thomas was buried in the parish church of Worksop, August 15, 1660, according to his will, made, December 1, A. D. 1659, and in which he is described as of Shireoaks. He had three children baptized at Worksop, viz. Gualter, March 21, 1617; William, June 18, 1620; Anne, May 17, 1624. William, it appears, was baptized the day on which he was born, and died one day within the twelvemonth: a stone was noticed in the church, by Dodsworth, with this inscription:—"Here lyeth the body of William Hewet, sonne of Sir Thomas Hewet, of Shireoke, knight, who was borne June 18, anno 1620, and dyed June 19, 1621. The probability hinted at in the text, that the last Sir Thomas was brother to these children, is certainly disparaged by the facts, first, that his baptism is not recorded in the register; and secondly, that there is a distance of twenty-two years between the date of his birth and the Anne above-mentioned.

The parish registers contain several other entries of the name of Hewet, but none of them indicated as of the knight's family. Thomas Hewet and Isabel Beard were married at Worksop, April 6, 1575, and had a son William baptized there in December the following year. There are, likewise baptisms entered of the children of James, Richard, and Henry Hewet.

Among the Wilson MSS. in the Leeds Library, there is an undated pedigree of several descents of the Vessey family, the last of which is William, second son of W. Vessey, of Brampton le Morthen, by Margery, daughter of Mr. Ric. Barley, or Darley, who is said to have married the daughter of Sir Thomas Hewet, by whom he had no issue.

‡ Among other stories, probably fabulous, respecting Sir Thomas, it is stated that he was not buried at Wales, but according to his wish, in the wood, near his *banqueting house*, adjoining to which, it was his intention to have erected a *mausoleum*, as representatives, according to his opinion of *Heaven and Hell!* And, continues the story, as they were conveying an empty coffin through the wood, to Wales, by torchlight, when they arrived opposite this spot, they were stopped by a preternatural gust of wind, which extinguished all their lights. By all accounts, it appears that he was a litigious and unpleasant neighbour—one who neither feared God, nor regarded man.

memory, and the following arms :—azure, on a fess or., three martlets sable, between three lions passant or.

The issue of the above marriage was a daughter, who, with her parents, resided at the then beautiful house and estate at Shireoaks. This lady contracted a very imprudent marriage,—at least, so says oral report; and tradition, not willing to hold the memory of any event, without its concomitant causes, has either preserved or fabricated some of the romantic circumstances connected with this filial misadventure.\* Be the truth of this story what it may, Sir Thomas is said thereupon to have disclaimed and disinherited his daughter, and, in consequence, to have placed in relation of heir, the Rev. John Hewet, then rector of Harthill. The free principles of the knight disinclined him to transfer his estate to a churchman, he, therefore, proposed to his reverend relative to renounce his profession, and he would give him the property. The conscientious divine refusing to comply with this proposal, Sir Thomas put him by, and gave the estate to John Thornhaugh, Esq. of Osberton, his god-son, for the term of his natural life, and who took the name of Hewet, probably in compliance with the wish of Sir Thomas. Mr. Thornhaugh Hewet outlived the above-mentioned rector of Harthill; at his death, however, the estate came to a son of the latter gentleman, who also was rector of Harthill and Todwick.

The Rev. John Hewet, on his accession to the property here, resolved to devote some of the family estate so providentially fallen into his hands, and, on many accounts so precariously circumstanced, to a benevolent purpose; he, therefore, contemplated the erection and endowment of a chapel at Shireoaks, as the fittest object for the consolidation of his bounty. This he accordingly did; and the chapel was finished, endowed, and a minister appointed in 1809.

Mr. Hewet had at this time living with him a niece, the daughter of his elder brother Matthew, and married to the Rev. William Wheatley, rector of Seamer, near Scarborough, by whom she had two sons. To the younger of these sons, who was then major in the Nottinghamshire militia, Mr. Hewet, by deed of gift transferred the estate, in the beginning of the year 1810, re-

\* The following is the story :—There resided at that period, on Gateford Common, a man of the name of Thackeray, who professed to be a fortune-teller. To the house of this Sydrophele, Miss Hewet, with some other ladies, in a frolic, repaired, to know their fortunes: Henry Cornelius Agrippa, of *Nettesheim*, in Germany, is said to have shewn to the poetical Earl of Surrey, the image of his mistress Geraldine, in a magical mirror, and since his time, such a looking-glass has generally constituted a part of a conjuror's paraphernalia; and, so it did on the present occasion. The ladies successively beheld in the glass the countenances of their future husbands; and when it came to Miss Hewet's turn, what should she see but the phiz of the wily soothsayer! which is said to have been far from engaging. Yet, notwithstanding this, and the folly

of the whole affair, her mind became bent on fulfilling the import of the apparition, and no menaces or arguments could deter her from marrying him! A descendant of this marriage is said to have resided in Lincoln several years back, whose employment was to serve the masons, and who was denominated among his companions, *Shireoaks Tom*. Various claimants of the estate from this family, have at different times presented themselves during the last fifty years; and no longer since than the present month, (August, 1825,) a party of ten persons, of both sexes, visited Shireoaks as claimants of the estate: they went to the hall, got in by a window, and after perambulating the rooms, and subsequently the gardens, complaining of the decay, they took their leave, intimating that they should, in a short time, return and take possession.

serving his life in the same. Report says, that in less than six hours after the execution of this instrument, the devisee contracted the estate to the late Vincent Eyre, Esq., from whom it passed to Charles, Duke of Norfolk, to whose domains Shireoaks is desirably contiguous.

Presently after this bargain, and before the death of Mr. Hewet, who then resided on the spot, the downfall of the fine timber on the estate was decreed, and the axe had already begun to sound in the avenue. This mortifying procedure put Mr. Hewet upon examining the terms of the late contract, in which he found that the wood was not included; he thereupon represented to the purchaser, that if he did not compound for the timber, there should not be a stick left on the estate,—there was no alternative, and the purchase was concluded. The process of felling was now recommenced, and the most goodly and delightful sylvan features of Shireoaks, were laid low, to the regret of the neighbourhood, and the great grief of Mr. Hewet, whom old age had spared to witness this devastation, and whose carriage was actually stopped by the prostrate trees, the very last time he suffered himself to be driven out. His death, in 1811, was the signal for the demolition of the mansion, which was effected, and the materials sold and carried away, with the exception of a small portion which was purchased by Mr. Froggat for a trifle, and by him fitted up as a residence.

To a stranger visiting this place, the appearance of desolation and neglect is obvious and impressive. As I approached the hamlet from the north-east, having come along the towing-path of the canal from Worksop, the white ruined fragment of the hall, came upon my sight among the trees, like the indistinct apparition of its former glory. On approaching it nearer, the effect was hardly diminished from the solitude which surrounded it. The foundations, and remains of many of the large rooms were discernible, while the habitable portion was shut up. The terrace was deserted, and the gardens neglected and over-run with weeds. The once beautiful and glittering cascade was gone to ruin; the lake was stagnant, filled with leaves and feculence; and yet the whole was rendered interesting, by the powerful vegetative effects of the moist situation and the summer's sun, especially in connection with several immensely large beech and elm trees, which are said to have been indebted to their infirmity for their reprieve, being reputed hollow.

A long avenue of trees, or rather the traces of one, runs from the front of the house, in the direction of Whitwell, and through the wood, where, at the distance of about a mile, it is intersected by others going in different directions; near the point whence these avenues diverge in six radii, stands the decayed banqueting-house, which was built by Sir Thomas for the entertainment of himself and friends. The situation is delightful, but the attractions are gone. The marble lining of the walls has been torn away; the windows of stained glass demolished or removed; and the wine-cellar underneath, about the contents of which the tongue of tradition still smacks in recital, is filled with stones, and frequented by reptiles. The stranger in this wood can hardly fail to notice the number and the magnitude of the yew trees, interspersed about; indeed, the difference

between these fine free-growing individuals, and the gnarled and stunted character of their fellows, in some churchyards and elsewhere, shews that they have found a situation favourable to their natures.

Shireoaks chapel, as above-stated, was built by the Rev. John Hewet, lord of the manor, and rector of Harthill and Todwick. In December, 1809, the founder instituted to the curacy, the first and present incumbent, the Rev. George Savile, B.A. It was opened for Divine Service on Palm Sunday, 1810, under a licence from his Grace the Archbishop of York, by whom it was consecrated on the 28th of August, in the same year. The right of presentation, henceforward, is vested by agreement, with the Duke of Norfolk, in consideration that he pay five pounds annually, to the vicar of Worksop for the time being, to forego the exercise of his right to present. The chapel, is a small, neat building, with an ornamental octangular tower, surmounted with a cupola; a vestry and a Sunday School are attached, and the whole is surrounded with an inconsiderable burial-ground. The inside of the chapel is quite plain, and contains the following inscriptions to the memory of the founder:—I. On a marble slab against the wall, “H. S. S. RELIQUIÆ JOHANNIS HEWETT. Obiit Dec. 30. An Dom. MDCCCXI. Ætatis 89. Qualis fuit Christus Dominus suo Adventu Indicabit.” II. On a plain stone within the altar. “The Rev. John Hewet A.M. Died Dec. 30th, 1811, aged 89.”

Adjoining the chapel-yard, is the neat dwelling of the curate, which, with an endowment of ninety pounds a-year, under the management of trustees, constitute the benefice. The hamlet contains about twenty-five families, comprising one hundred and sixteen souls, and has not, it is probable, ever been considered as more populous: better days, and brighter circumstances, it has undoubtedly witnessed, when the rustic cross was unbroken, and the rural May pole duly dressed; but of the former, the pediment stone only remains; and of the latter, nothing but the recollection of the ancient inhabitants.

### Kilton

is situate a little below Worksop, on the northern side of the river. Thomas de Furnival had the manor of Kilton; and there was a controversy moved between Sir Thomas de Furnival, and his tenants of Kilton, on the one part, and Richard Rolston, otherwise called Chamberlayn, on the other, about the way of leading the draught beasts of the tenants of Kilton to the pasture of Roomwood, appeased on this manner, 4th April, 1301:—That the tenants of Kilton ought to drive their cattle backward and forward by the way of *Bresbrig*, and so by the way of Radford, and from Radford, by the way unto Southcotes, belonging to the priory of Worksop, and from thence unto *Bryndhastedys*, and so by the same bounds and limits to Kilton. This was entered in the court roll of the said Sir Thomas, Lord Furnival, the day and year above said.\* Whether

\* Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 408.

the passage over the river above alluded to, was any thing beside a ford, notwithstanding its designation, I know not; but such it was fifty years ago, with as eries of little piers, or stepping-stones for pedestrians, similar to the *leapings*, as they are called in Derbyshire,—exhibiting an arrangement more picturesque than commodious, and less safe than either. The neighbourhood is indebted for the convenience of the present Bracebridge, to the liberality of the late F. F. Foljambe, Esq., and Charles, Duke of Norfolk. There is an entry in the parish register, A. D. 1684, stating, that Mary, the wife of John Button, of Kilton,\* died excommunicate, and was buried in the garden: same year, Chris. Kirby, currier, died excommunicate; and, 1685, July 27, Mary, wife of Mr. Lee, died excommunicate, and was buried in the garden. For what crimes this heaviest of ecclesiastical censures was inflicted, does not appear: but probably either for avowals of atheism, neglect of church and sacrament, or contempt of the spiritual court. They are the only entries of the kind which I have noticed in the register, and it is remarkable not only that they are two females, but that the interments are so nearly together.

Kilton belongs to the Duke of Norfolk: his tenant, Mr. Hodgkinson, has built a neat residence there, which is contiguous also to his freehold, comprising nearly all the land extending from Prior Well to Bracebridge, and lying between the canal and the Retford road. This gentleman's house, with two or three cottages, constitutes the hamlet.

Samuel Hodgkinson, born at Torworth. — Miss Owtrain, of Alfreton.

Anne, born 1803.	William, born 1804.	Elizabeth, born 1806.	Edmund, born 1808.	Benjamin, born 1809.	Sally, born 1811.	Catharine, born 1813.	Harriet, born 1814.
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### Ryton.

or Ryton, is the next hamlet on the river, from which it seems to derive its name; unless it be from *Rye*, its staple product; or *Rih*, rough, shaggy; and *ton*, a town, or enclosure, in allusion to its then uncultivated appearance; as Scofton appears to be derived from the opposite characteristic, Scofen, smooth, shaven: and *ton*, a town. The Domesday survey of this place has previously been noticed. According to Thoroton, Stephen Malovel gave a mess. two hundred and sixty acres of land, and seven of meadow, in *Renetone*, nigh *Wirksope*, to Alice, the wife of Ranulph de Huntingfeld, who bound himself to John de Melsa, in C. marks, by a statute merchant, and failing in payment, the sheriff caused the land to be extended at a reasonable price, viz. £4 9s. 1d., and put the said John in seisin, in which he stood for a year and more, until the said Ranulph and Alice disseised him, &c. Upon this came William de Dogmerfeld, who said he was the king's bayliff of his manor of Mansfield, and that *Renetone* was a member of the king's said manor, and

\* Probably "Brastrigg-house, the first in Kilton Lane, from the said brigg", for which John Button claimed, and was allowed a seat in the church in 1681.



the tenements put in view, *ancient demesne*, &c. In this are recorded very many of the customs of Mansfield, which shews that they are as like freeholders as copyholders can be. *Reyton* hath been, and still is, the place of residence of a family, named Eyre,\* and of which Thoroton gives a pedigree of five or six descents.

George Eyre, Gent., who was living here in 1612, died 2d May, 1616; made his will, proved 15th May, 1617, giving his soul to God, and his body to be buried in the parish church of Worksop. The estate has been purchased by the Foljambe's, of Osberton: the tenant, Mr. Outram,† resides here in a good modern house, a short distance from the site of the ancient mansion of the Eyres, the ruins of which were some years ago discernible, a little nearer to the river.

## Osberton.

" This spot doth seem a little Arcady ;  
When summer's power hath foliaged the trees,  
And carpeted with verdure the smooth lawn,  
And fringed the river and the path-way side  
With native flowers ;—then would I wander here."

Pedigree of the family of Foljambe, of Osberton, since its connection with this place.

Arms of Foljambe.—Gules, a bend or. between six escallop shells of the same.—Crest. A leg armed proper.

The late Mr. Foljambe, according to modern practice, placed an inescutcheon over the fess-point of the ancient shield, charged quarterly with the bearings of his two wives; viz. argent, a couple of rings linked gules, between three crosses patée sable, THORNHAUGH. Argent, on a bend sable, three owls argent, SAVILE. The crest is described as above, on the authority of a tricking and description from the herald's office. Dr. Pegge, however, after stating that the ancient crest of this family, as portrayed in a corner of the altar piece, afterwards mentioned, is a Jamb parted per pale or. and sable, with the foot upwards, observes, that the Jamb at present borne as a crest, is quarterly or. and sable, standing on the wreath.

\* Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 403.

† This person is a member of an old Worksop family, the branches of which intermarried with many names in the town. Mr. Outram, the grandfather of the Rayton resident, had seven children, which grew up,—William, Francis, and five daughters. William, the eldest son, had himself eight children, of which, Maria was married to the Rev. T. Stacey, and Rebekah to Mr. Heane, of Worksop. Of the daughters above-men-

tioned, two were married in succession to Mr. Henfrey, of Worksop; one to Mr. Marsh, and another to Mr. Heurtley, artist, of Worksop; the other died unmarried; Francis above-mentioned had five children, one of which is the person mentioned in the text, who married a Miss Brooks, of Budby, by whom he has

Susannah, born 1822.	Elizabeth, b. 1823.	Robert, b. 1824.	Sarah, b. 1826.
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Francis Foljambe, the younger, of Aldwark—Mary, daughter of Thomas Worsley,  
died Dec. 6, 1752. of Hovingham, Esq.

Francis Foljambe, heir-apparent, died, Jan. 19, 1726, æt 22.	Thomas Foljambe, married Sarah, dau. of W. Spencer, of Bramley Grange, Esq., died, March 8, 1758, æt 47, without issue, leaving his estates to his nephew, Fran. Moore.	George Foljambe, died, cælebs, Jan. 4, 1741.	Catharine, married to Sir Hen. Ibbotson, of Leeds; she died, without issue, Oct. 4, 1740, æt 23.	Ann, 2nd dau. died, Oct. 4, 1751.	John Moore, of Kingston-upon-Hull, Esq. she died.	Francis, wife of John Twigge, of Bakewell, Esq.	Two sons and three daus. more, all died young.
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Mary Arabella Thornhaugh, dau. of John Thornhaugh, afterwards Hewet, of Osberton and Shire-oaks, Esq., by Arabella, dau. of Sir John Savile, of Rufford, co. Nottingham, Bart.

Francis Moore, Esq. born Jan. 1749, who, pursuant to the will of his uncle, assumed the name and arms of Foljambe; died at Osberton, at 65, and was buried at Ecclesfield, Oct. 23, 1814.

Lady Mary Lumley, dau. of the late Earl of Scarborough, by Barbara, dau. of Sir John Savile, of Rufford, co. Nottingham, Bart.; died May, 1816; cousin to first wife.

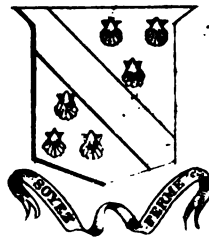
John Savile Foljambe, of Aldwark, Esq., born May 3, 1776; died Jan. 14, 1805; buried at Ecclesfield.	Elizabeth, dau. of the Rev. Jas. Willoughby, rector of Guisebrough, in W. Riding co. of York.	Mary Beresford, married to F. O. Edmunds, of Worsbrough, Esq.	Francis Ferrand, died unmarried.	George, died unmarried.	Henry Savile, twin brother.	Arabella Savile, married to Rev. J. Robinson.	Thornhaugh, died an infant.
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George Savile Foljambe, of Osberton House, Esq.	Mary Arabella, married at Worksop, Dec. 30, 1824.	Hon. and Rev. Le-land Noel, vicar of Cambden, in Gloucestershire, 7th son of Sir Gerard Noel, Bart.	Emma.	Francis Thornhaugh.
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OSBERTON

THE SEAT OF



HOUSE,

G. S. POLJAMBE, Esq.

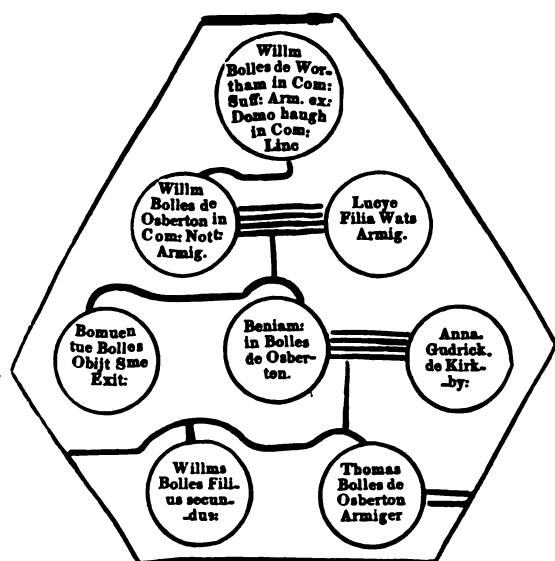
Osberton is called, in Domesday-book, *Osberneston*, and contained two manors, which Elwine and Wulvit had, and paid the geld as one carucate, the land being sufficient for four ploughs, or four carucates. Afterwards, Swan and Wulvit held it of the Conqueror; and had there five sokemen, having four ploughs, and a church, and twenty acres of meadow, with wood pasture six quarenteens long, and three broad. In the Confessor's time, the value was sixty shillings, in the Conqueror's, ten shillings.

Mauvesinus de Hercy held the whole town of Osberton of the Countess of Augi, by the service that he should be her dispencer; and the heirs of Alfreton had the land, and defended it by such service.\*

\* Testa de Nevil.

The gift of Osberton church, by the lord of Alfreton, and the donation of Thomas de Chaworth to Worksop priory, are mentioned among the grants to that foundation. The church noticed as existing at the time of the conquest, has long been down.

In the *Nonarum Inquisitiones*, Temp. Edw. III. *Osberton* is thus entered:—"It qd ecclia de Osbtou tax' ad vijm' et dic' qd non' garb vell et agn' ejusd' vz p ann' ad ver' val' v. m' et no pl q q mortuar' oblat' et alie minute decie ptin eidm val' p ann' xxvj s. viij d."



A blacksmith's shop once occupying a portion of the site of the present offices of the mansion, is said to have exhibited in its structure some of the original walls of the church, or at least to have been built of the identical stones: and on removing this building, and digging foundations for the kitchen, &c. Many human bones, especially skulls, and jaws, with the teeth remaining in them fresh and white, were dug up. There is at present in the farm-yard of Mr. Rodgers, at Osberton, a square excavated stone, used as a pump trough, which is said to have been the ancient christening font; be this as it may, it is remarkable that the only undoubted remains of this church, consist in a portion of the most frangible material connected with the edifice,—namely, two small pieces of glass,

preserved in the museum at Osberton House: one fragment exhibiting a bird's head, as crest, and the other a yellow hexagonal pane, with a part of the pedigree of Bolles, as represented in the margin.\*

Roger de Osberton, in the time of Henry III., held a knight's fee of the honour of Tickhill. In the third year of the same king, Thomas de Chaworth claimed the right of free warren in his demesne lands at Osberton. Thomas Dynham, gent., 31 Hen. VIII., claimed against Joan Fitz-

\* Although there is at present no domestic chapel attached to the house, nor on the estate; yet, I cannot here refrain from mentioning the fact so honourable to the parties concerned—that *family worship* is duly maintained in the house, the morning and evening sacrifice being daily offered on the domestic altar: and this is owing, I believe, to the influentially religious character of ἐκλεκτῇ κυρίῃ—Mrs. Foljambe herself.

This excellent lady, whose pleasing manners, and superior understanding are only equalled by her piety and benevolence, will pardon this seeming intrusion into the privacy of her domestic character. With such an example, let other "honourable women" suffer the Scriptural exhortation, "Go ye and do likewise."

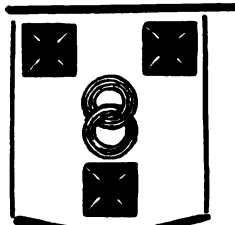
william, widow, (a co-heir of the Chaworth family,) the third part of the manors of Osberton, Marnham, and others, with the appurtenances.

Henry the Eighth, as before observed, anno reg. 32, granted Osberton Grange to Robert Dighton, Esq., who had licence, 12th Aug. 32 Hen. VIII., to alienate the same, with other property, to William Bolles and his heirs, in whose possession the manor subsequently remained for a considerable period.

William Bolles, of Osberton, Esq. died 2d March, A. D. 1582; made his will, which was proved, 30th May, 1583, "Giving his soul to God Almighty, hoping, through Jesus Christ to be saved, and his body to be buried in the s. side of the quere or chancell of the p'ish ch. of Wyrksop, and to have a fair and large marble, with his arms, and cognizance of his wife Lucye Bolles graved in mettle, (called Lattin,) and set forth in their right colours. As also, on the same to be graven or written the day and year of both their deaths, whose wife's death was in 28th November, 1558, whose bones he will have taken up where they lye, in the body of the sd ch. of Wirksope and laid by his. And his last wife Agnes Bolles, who departed this life, 2d Nov. 1569." It does not appear that this monument was ever erected. The arms of Bolles were, az. three cups argent, holding as many hoars heads erased, or.

Thomas Bolles, armiger, was owner of Osberton in 1612; and sheriff of the county, 8 Car. I., Samuel Bolles, probably his son, baptized January 12, 1605, was afterwards in the commission for the peace, so late as 1657-8, up to which period his signature attests the certificates of marriage under the protectorate; he died Dec. 27, 1657. From Bolles, the estate came by marriage to the Leeks, of which family, Thoroton observed, in his time, that there was "a son or two to preserve the inheritance."

Of the Foljambes, whose monuments and mortuary memorials have successively adorned the churches of Chesterfield, Bakewell, and Ecclesfield, according to the proximity of their respective residences,—my brief notices must be confined to their connection with this place. The Osberton estate came into this ancient and highly respectable family, by a marriage between the late Francis Ferrand Foljambe, of Aldwark, Esq., and the daughter and co-heir of John Thornhaugh, Esq., descended from the ancient family of that name, long settled at Fenton, in this county: by the above-mentioned lady he had seven children. John Savile Foljambe, Esq., the eldest son and heir-apparent, died before his father, himself leaving two sons and two daughters, all in their minority. George Savile Foljambe, Esq., the eldest son, became heir on the death of his grandfather, in 1814, and came to the estate on attaining the age of twenty-one, a few years afterwards: he was sheriff of Nottinghamshire in 1825; being unmarried, his mother, brother, and sister, reside with him at Osberton. The above Francis Ferrand



Thornhaugh.

The above Francis Ferrand

Foljambe, Esq. was sheriff of Yorkshire, 1787. He was a man equally honoured for his public spirit, and revered for his private virtues; and he is declared by those who knew him, to have exhibited, in a high degree, those qualities, which characterised our old English gentry. This gentleman found, on the domain, an indifferent mansion, an ancient mill adjoining, and wood scenery, naturally capable of being formed into great pictorial beauty. He did not then, however, make it his residence, but, as it was situate in a sporting district, generally let it, during the season, for a hunting box. About thirty years ago, he came to reside on the estate, which he spared no expense in improving; the house he almost entirely re-edified, removed the mill lower down, and the wood he improved to the utmost of its advantages, making it one of the sweetest home-plots imaginable. The approach to this elegant residence is from the Retford road, by a way which brings the visitor, after crossing the canal, to the yard of offices, which adjoins and hides the house, in that direction; the other three sides, however, are quite open. Wyatt was the architect; and the house, which is equally handsome and commodious, exhibits in front an elegant portico of four fluted Ionic pillars, supporting a highly ornamented architrave and pediment. This noble appendage, in itself so exquisitely proportioned, appears, however, too large for its situation, unless the spectator views it from a point, which commands two faces of the house at once. There is, in this house, what must be equally interesting to the naturalist and the casual visitor, a *complete* collection of *British birds*, in the very finest state of preservation. This charming selection from the most beautiful portion of animated nature, was chiefly made by the late Mr. Foljambe, and is said, with one exception, to be unequalled in the kingdom; one of the cases contains a species of moor-hen, denominated by ornithologists, *Gallinula Foljambei Olivaceous*;—this is a just and appropriate compliment. The room which was built for the reception of the birds is admirably adapted for the purpose. Besides several cases of foreign insects, and geological specimens, there is a small collection of the *feræ naturæ* animals of this island. The museum, likewise, among other objects of curiosity, contains a carving in alabaster, probably five hundred years old, representing the assassination of Thomas Becket, and is believed to have been the original altar-piece belonging to Beauchief Abbey,\* and the gift of some ancient member of the Foljambe family, whose arms it bears. Here is also a perfect Roman altar, dug up some years ago, on Mr. Foljambe's estate, at Littlebrough, in this county; and, I may mention too, a couple of large drinking horns, mounted, banded, and tipped with silver;† they are reported by family tradition, to have belonged to an ani-

\* Dr. Pegge, in his "Historical Account of Beauchief Abbey," p. 246, has given a tolerably faithful etching of this stone, accompanied with a description, by the late Mr. Beckwith, of Masbro', stating, that it is "About two feet high and nine broad, and about six inches thick: the figures stand under a canopy hollowed out of the stone; are about three feet high, and project forward from the back two inches and a half" &c. This is very inaccurate: the stone, instead of being about nine feet broad, is about nineteen inches. This might well enough pass with the historian, who probably never saw the object in question: but how he came to admit, that figures, "about three feet high," could stand under a canopy, in a stone, itself

only "about two feet high," is difficult to conceive: they are, deed, about half the alleged height.

† One of them is thus inscribed:—

GODFRAE FOULGAM  
CARVED THESE HORNS  
TO BE GARNISHED  
IN CHESTERFIELD  
IN THE OF OUR LORD.  
1574.

mal presented to the king by one of the Foljambes, at some period when a fat ox might neither be an inappropriate nor an unacceptable present to royalty.

The estate abounds with game; and the home-ground or pleasure-plot, as before observed, is admirably laid out, and although not extensive, yet rising somewhat boldly from the river, and being broken and diversified by inequalities, the noble oaks, elms, and beeches, both singly and in groups, produce a very striking effect: the beauty of the whole is very materially enhanced by the presence of the Royton, which is here expanded into the resemblance of a broad river, dotted with reedy islets, overhung by the opulent foilage of the adjacent trees. The *back front* of the house, to use a common phrase, opens upon a spacious lawn, shut in on one side by a noble boundary of oaks, and on the other by a screen of thriving plantation trees, which effectually exclude the grounds and the canal\* from a glimpse of each other.

**Scofton,**

which was once a place of some consideration, in connection with its residentiary family of the Jessops, is at present merely an appendage to Osberton, containing the hall-gardens, and a dwelling-house or two. In *Thorp*, *Scoteby*, and *Rounton*, were two carucates. *Soc* to the king's great manor of Mansfield. There was a writ of false judgment, 21 Hen. VIII. between Elizabeth Fenton, widow, plaintiff, and John Hill, Thomas Capstoke, and Robert Johnson *alias* Smith, concerning three mess., two hundred acres of land, forty of meadow, twenty of pasture, four of wood, and 10s. rent, with the appurtenances, in Scofton, in the king's court of Mansfield, in Shirewood.†

Thoroton observes, that the prime capital message in Scofton, (a fragment of which still remains,) hath for some time belonged to the Jessops. This family resided for seven generations, in great respectability at Broomhall, near Sheffield; the Scofton resident was Wortley Jessop, who entered his pedigree at St. George's visitation of Nottinghamshire, in 1614: he made his will at this place, April 13, 1615, and in the same, or following year, he was lost at sea. By his will, among other legacies, he gives to Mr. William Cart, vicar of Worksop, 40s., and entreats him to preach at his burial, and he desires his wife to continue to him the yearly contribution during his abode at Worksop. He gives to Christopher Carleil, 20s., and to William Vessie, 40s., with legacies to his servants, and the poor of Worksop.‡ His relict appears afterwards to have married for her second husband, Mr. Henry Lukine, at Worksop, 22d Dec. 1618.||

Another resident connects Scofton with the neighbourhood of Sheffield; this was an ancestor

\* The towing-path is on the further side of the canal from the house, and this is provided for by express clauses in the act, both with respect to Osberton House and Shireoaks Hall. Moreover, that no "quay, wharf, crane, weighing beam, mill, warehouse, or other building," nor more than one towing-path, shall be allowed, within 1000 yards of the above houses.

† Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 403.

‡ Hallamshire, p. 214.

|| Ath. Ox. vol. i. p. 275, and Parish Register of Worksop.

of the family of Banks, of Shiercliffe. Mr. Banks, who had been an officer under Sir John Reresby, in the garrison at Burlington, died here at a very great age, in the family of his son, who had retired to this place, after having enriched himself by successful practice as an attorney; having sat in two parliaments, once for Grimsby, and once for Totness; he died 27th September, 1727, aged 62. Mr. Hunter, from whose account the above notice is taken, adds, "Mr. Handley gives him this character, that he was ever true to his client, but well paid, a pleasant and very facetious companion, and says, that he never seemed to enjoy life more than when he had collected a few of his old Sheffield friends, whom he used to invite to pay him an annual visit of two or three days, in his retirement at Scofton."\* His great grandson was the late right honourable Sir Joseph Banks, the celebrated patron of natural history, and president of the Royal Society. The last owner of Scofton was a Sutton, who sold it to the late F. F. Foljambe, Esq.

Here the parishes of Worksop and Babworth† join each other, the extremity of the former being in this neighbourhood, especially towards the east, delightfully wooded. This district, now covered with trees, (160 acres,) which, sixty years ago, was called *Manton plantation*, and now *Manton wood*,‡ appears to have been open forest when Leland wrote as follows:—"The soyle, saving a little by *Wyrksop* to *Rethford* market, is plentiful of corne in enclosed feeldes, *but little woode*." Returning towards Worksop, by the Retford road, we pass the hamlet of

### Manton,

(perhaps from *Man*, tenant or servant, and *ton*, town,) which belongs to the Duke of Norfolk; and contains, besides others, a neat brick house, built and inhabited by Mr. Gregory. According to a provisional clause in the act, the canal, which was projected to pass through the stack-yards of Manton House, is carried on the north side of the buildings, yard, and gardens, and the company are bound to maintain a sufficient drain, to carry off any water which may ouze through the south bank of the canal, to the detriment of the homestead.

\* Hallamshire, p. 230.

† *BABWORTH*.—From Osberton Grange, the residence of Mr. Foster, I was once taken by my friends to see Babworth church, which they had visited, and the pictorial beauty of which they praised highly. I was not disappointed in my interview with what they had so vividly described. Situated between Babworth Hall, the seat of the Hon. John Bridgeman Simpson, and the residence of the venerable and Rev. Archdeacon Eyre, the church appears rather like a private appendage to one of these mansions, than as belonging to the parish. The little burial plot, is a considerable elevation, connected with, or rather enclosed within, the elegant pleasure grounds of the adjacent buildings; while the fine trees, aged and bowery, enhance materially the charming effect of the "ivy-mantled tower:" the whole group of objects here described, present a fine picture to the traveller along the Retford road. Of my visit to his spot, I find the following memorial among my papers:—

"Beautiful *Babworth* / oft by Memory's power,  
When I am sad, and friends are far away—  
Shall my fond thoughts recall that charming day,  
When first mine eyes beheld thy sacred tower:  
When with those friends I paced thy burial ground,  
Then sat and rested on the green grave mound:  
Or pluck'd the little speedwell's azure flower:  
O there was warmth and brightness in that hour!  
And those thick church-yard trees did there enbower  
Three friends, in friendship's purest ardour met.  
That hour is gone—that day hath ever set;  
Yet shall those friends, that hour, thy scenery be,  
Beautiful *Babworth*! long enshrined by me,  
In Memory's chamber, as a choice Vignette."

‡ Or *Primrose Wood*, as it is oftener called, from its abundant produce of the *Primula veris*, swaths of which might have been mown, when I passed that way, April 10, 1836.



This, and some of the neighbouring hamlets, were visited, on the 23d of July, 1797, with a singular tornado, or hurricane, which happened about one o'clock P. M. Its course was in a north-east direction; and its violence was first perceived on the forest, between Worksop and Manton, where it stript large branches from oak and other trees, scattering them to considerable distances; taking up cocks, and even stacks of hay, driving them in every direction; and a wooden barn there was unroofed and thrown down. At Kilton, a little further to the north-east, a small cottage and an outhouse were unroofed and all the apple trees in an orchard adjoining torn up by the roots. The storm going on from thence, with increased violence, tearing up some trees, splitting others, and destroying every thing in its way, arrived at length at a plantation of spruce firs, near Scofton, belonging to Mr. Sutton, through which it cut an avenue about thirty yards wide, and threw down every tree in its course, except one, which most unaccountably stood, though in the very centre of its progress. This remarkable hurricane, or whirlwind, appeared to extend about three miles in length, and about one hundred yards in breadth. Major Rooke, who published the particulars, observes, that, on the day it happened, and on the preceding one, the claps of thunder, with vivid lightning, were frequent and violent: the atmosphere seemed to be strongly impregnated with the electric fluid, which, by its action, might rarify the air in a partial or local manner, and thus occasion the above-mentioned effects, till the equilibrium was restored.\*



RUINED SAXON CHURCH, AT STEETLEY, NEAR WORKSOP.

### Ratcliffe,

is merely named by Thoroton, as one of the hamlets in the parish, and concerning which, he observes, he had not met with any thing remarkable. Ratcliffe Grange, the farm and residence of

\* Meteorological Register, kept at Mansfield Woodhouse, from 1796 to the end of 1797, by H. R.

Mr. Dunlop, and a few other houses, comprehended under the above designation, are situated, about half a mile to the left of the Barlbrough road from Worksop,\* not far from Harnish Grove. Near to Mr. Dunlop's house, two fields, now called *Orchard Closes*, and containing a tree or two indicate the site of an old orchard, which existed in 1763, containing twenty-three acres, planted with fruit trees, which, from appearances in the garden at Darfolds, appear to thrive in this situation. This hamlet, as well as Harnish Grove, a farm and homestead in the tenancy of Mr. Richard Case, belong to the Duke of Norfolk. A century ago, a child was found exposed here; and afterwards, April 11, 1725, was christened at Worksop church, by the name of *Rosamar Radcliffe*, on which occasion there seems to have been some merry-making, for the overseers of the poor expended five shillings and sixpence in meat and drink. Whether the foundling lived to grow up, or to marry, I am not certain; but, for a considerable period, Rosaman's nursing and clothing constitute regular items in the parish accounts.

From Ratcliffe, a delightfully sequestered and verdant road, progressively denominated *Broad Lane*, and *Green Lane*, and marked by a few rustic dwellings, traverses this section of the park, and leads down to

### Sloswick,

another hamlet, which is mentioned among the priory grants, as the donation of one of the Lovetots of Wishou. Queen Elizabeth, 27th April, in the 18th year of her reign, granted to Roger Manners, and his heirs, with other property, "all that tenement lying in the hamlet of *Sloswick*, within the parish of *Warsop*, [Worksop?] in the tenure of James Burgesse; and all lands and tenements in *Sloswick*, in the tenure of Peter Horwock, late belonging to the monastery of *Worksop*."† Sloswick belongs to the Duke of Norfolk, by exchange with the Duke of Portland, and

\* STEETLEY.—The visitor, who prefers the relics of ancient architecture to the sylvan beauties of the neighbourhood, need not be disappointed, for an hour's walk will enable him to visit as exquisite specimens of two styles of building—the Saxon and the Gothic, as are to be found in the kingdom: I allude to St. Mary's Chapel, already noticed, and Steetley Church, which is situated about half a mile beyond Harnish Grove, and 500 or 600 yards to the right from the Barlbrough road.

The authors of the *Magna Britannia*, from which the sub-joined description of this ruin is taken, have devoted eight plates in their work to its illustration. "The desecrated church of Steetley," say they, "exhibits a very complete specimen of the later and more enriched style of Saxon architecture on a small scale. It is quite entire, except the roof, and has undergone no alteration, except in one of the windows on the south side, which has been enlarged. It consists of a nave and chancel, each 26 feet in length; the east end being circular and vaulted: the ribs of the arches, and the capitals of the half pillars, from which they spring, are much enriched with various mouldings, grotesque heads, foliage, and other orna-

ments. A cornice, supported by brackets, ornamented with roses, heads, &c., runs round the upper part of the building on the outside. The circular part at the east end, has also a fascia of foliage running round it, about the middle of the building; and is, besides, enriched with pilasters, in the Saxon style. The arch of the south door-way is ornamented with zig-zag mouldings and heads; the shafts of the pillars are covered with sculptured foliage and other ornaments, in the style of the door-way of Ely Cathedral."—*Lycens' Mag. Brit. Derb.* ccxx.

This interesting building is at present used as a barn and stable! And, standing, as it does, on the Worksop manor estate, it is to be hoped that the noble owner will take some means to prevent its further dilapidation. The church appears once to have been connected with a parish and rectory, of which the Vavasors and Freschvilles were successively patrons, and to which the latter presented an incumbent in 1370.

† Thoroton, vol. iii. p. 401.

exhibits a part of those advantageous arrangements, by which the estate of the former duke, consisting of about 8,000 acres, is not only increased, but compacted. I am informed, that the Welbeck\* addition was a long screed of adjacent land, on the south side of the road from Plum-

\* WELBECK.—Previous to my first visit to Worksop, one of my anticipations, and that not the least delightful, was a ramble to Welbeck, principally to see its celebrated curiosity, the *Greendale Oak*, having long deemed it a subject of peculiar interest, and expecting to find it an object of some veneration. It was immediately after noon, on a pleasant day, about the middle of September, that I set out with my friends to visit this far-famed tree: the sky, although not unclouded, appeared propitious; and the road through Worksop Manor park as delightful as possible. As we were in the midst of such delightful objects, and my companions very anxious to increase my gratification, by pointing out, and expatiating upon every feature in succession; and as the tone of my mind happened to be pitched to a tolerably high key, I must own that I enjoyed the outset of this pilgrimage with some considerable proportion of my most dearly-remembered feelings. In about forty minutes we reached the lodge, passed the boundary of the Worksop estate, and entered the domain of Welbeck: about twenty minutes more brought us to the delightful residence of the Duke of Portland.

Welbeck is in the parish of *Cuckney*, which was, before the conquest, the estate of an old Saxon tenant, *in capite*, named Gamelbere, who, according to Dugdale, held of the king two carucates of land, by the service of shoeing the king's palfrey on all four feet, with the king's nails, as oft as the king should lie at his manor of Mansfield; and if he should lame the palfrey, then he should give the king another palfrey, of four marks price. This Gamelbere dying without issue, the estate escheated to the king, Henry I., who gave it to a son of *Jocous le Flemaugh*, who came with the Conqueror, and had lands at Cuckney: this son of Jocous had issue *Richard*, who laid the foundation of Welbeck Abbey, which, in 1512, became the head of all the Premonstratensian houses in England—then about thirty-five.

The present mansion is built on the site of the ancient monastic edifice, founded, according to Thoroton, in the time of Stephen, some of the original arches of which still remain in the kitchen and cellars. This building, although vastly inferior in design to Worksop Manor, pleased me, at the time, much more than the latter surpassingly magnificent, but unfinished mansion. Respecting, however, the claims of the house on general admiration, taste has created some difference of opinion, but none at all respecting the effect of the lake in the park: this is, indeed, a magnificent sheet of water, and, with the harmonizing scenery amidst which it is situate, produces immediate and universal satisfaction to every eye. We saw it under some circumstances of favourable incident: the sun was shining most delightfully, and a large flock of wild ducks, which were descending into the lake at a distance, gave

it a very peculiar appearance, from the brilliant silvery splash which accompanied them as they successively came in contact with the water. It was in widening this lake, in 1793, that an antique bust of cornelian, set in silver, and supposed to have belonged to an abbot of Welbeck, was found.

Welbeck is famous for its gardens: the hot-houses and green-houses are very extensive, and appear to be conducted in the very best manner: it was delightful to witness the great quantities of grapes and pines, in every stage of forcing and fructification. *Speechly*, whose celebrated writings upon the culture of these exquisite exotics, have hardly yet given place to more modern improvements, was the gardener here. I ought not to omit to mention, as likely to gratify the curious, that here may be observed the singular process of raising mushrooms artificially—so artificially, indeed, that the Egyptian method of hatching chickens in ovens, appears not more fictitious and remote from our common associations of rural economy on this subject, than do these dry shallow mushroom boxes, from the green autumnal meadows of our juvenile recollections. We found the curator of these fine gardens a very intelligent man, and unremitting in his attention to the gratification of our little party.

Under the direction of the gardener, we resumed our route towards the celebrated oak; and as we walked through the park, had frequent occasions of observing the effect produced by the arrangement of planting, mentioned by *Speechly* in his letter to Dr. Hunter, the editor of Evelyn's "*Sylva*." "On the outsides of the woods," says he, "next to the ridings, we plant evergreens, as hollies, laurels, yews, junipers, &c., and these we dispose in patches, sometimes the several sorts entire, at other times we mix them for variety; but not so as to make a regular screen or hedging. Our design in the distribution of these plants, is to make the outsides of the wood appear as if scalloped with ever-greens, intermingled with rose-trees, &c." Many of the trees in this park are of vast dimensions: one of them, called, from its height and straightness, *The Duke's Walking Stick*, is probably unmatched by any other in the kingdom: its height, to the top, is 111 feet 6 inches; solid contents, 440 feet; weight estimated at 11 tons! *The Seven Sisters*, is so called, from its having had seven trunks, issuing from one stool, in a perpendicular direction, to the height of 88 feet; circumference at the bottom, 30 feet. One of these stems has now been some time blown down. Not far from the last-mentioned, is a tree, the body of which is hollow from the bottom to the top, and is only three inches thick, where the bark has been stripped off: in this tree the game-keeper secretes himself when he shoots the deer; and there are several small apertures for his gun. There are many others, containing 700 or 800 feet of timber each, with tower-like trunks, and

tree house to Trueman's Lodge. Sloswick lies on the western side of Worksop park, and is in the tenancy of Mr. Bullivant, a name of early and frequent occurrence in the parish.

most stately heads; and one rood of ground, over which we passed, covered with oaks, is said to contain more growing timber than any equal space in the kingdom.

At length, after having passed through every variety of *sub—super—and circum—sylvan* scenery, we discovered the venerable object of our visit—the Greendale Oak.

“*Sprezza il furor del vento  
Robusta Quercia.*”

The first sight, however, of this monarch of the forest—this Methuselah of the trees, was not, I must confess, quite equal to my expectations; it had rather the appearance of an old cart shed, or an hermitage, with an oak growing over it, than the astonishing bole of the tree itself. On approaching it still nearer, so as to examine it, the delusion was hardly removed: there are so many upright and transverse supports, that it had still rather the appearance of a clumsy wooden erection, than of a living tree. It is, indeed, in the last stage of *trivial* decrepitude, and only able to maintain its situation while propped on crutches. This, however, only refers to its support; for it still maintains one very large bough, green, and vigorous, and which occasionally bears acorns. It is, however, after all, by the eye alone, and that only for a while, that any thing like disappointment is experienced; for the *mind*, after a few moments' reflection, feels peculiarly impressed by the contemplation of this monument of vegetable antiquity, the survivor of so many generations of men. Immense as it now is, and strong and sturdy as it has been, yet, as Cowper says of Yardley oak,

“Time was, when, settling on its leaf, a fly  
Could shake it to its root.”

Who gathered the ancestral acorn from whence it sprung? Who planted that acorn in the earth, and watched the first pair of infant leaves rise above the surface? Who tended it in the various stages of its growth? Perhaps the acorn fell, and the tree sprung up unnoticed by the eye of man? These, and a thousand similar questions may be put, but they must all remain unanswered: all that can now be guessed of this patriarch of the forest is, that it appears

“He stood the sovereign of the wilderness,  
And flourished greenly, and without compeers  
In strength and beauty, and adorn'd by years:  
The earth his footstool—Heaven his canopy—  
No Druid's rites he saw, no victim's tears;  
But widely there his giant arm unfurl'd  
His green and bloodless banner o'er a peaceful world.”

It was in the year 1724, that a woodman opened an aperture through the lower part of this tree, sufficiently large to admit

of the passage of a coach or a waggon—or three horsemen a-breast might ride through it. Virtue has made several engravings of it with these illustrations of its immense girth. Two beautiful views, with skeletons and dimensions, are given in Hunter's edition of “*Sylva.*”

In 1790, Hayman Rooke, Esq., of Mansfield Woodhouse, published “*Descriptions and Sketches of remarkable oaks in Welbeck Park.*” He says, “This famous oak is thought to be above seven hundred years old: and from its appearance, there is every reason to suppose it has attained to that age, at least. The circumference of the trunk above the arch, is thirty-five feet three inches; height of the arch, ten feet three inches; width about the middle, six feet three inches; height to the top branch, fifty-four feet. The Countess of Oxford, grandmother of the present duke, had several cabinets made of the branches, and ornamented with inlaid representations of the oak, with the following inscriptions:—

“*Sæpe sub hæc Dryades festas duxere choreas;  
Sæpe etiam manibus nexis ex ordine trunci  
Circuere modum mensuraque roboris ulnas,  
Quinque ter implebat, nec non et cætera tanto  
Silva sub hac, sylvæ quante jacet herba sub omni.*”

Ov. Mrr.

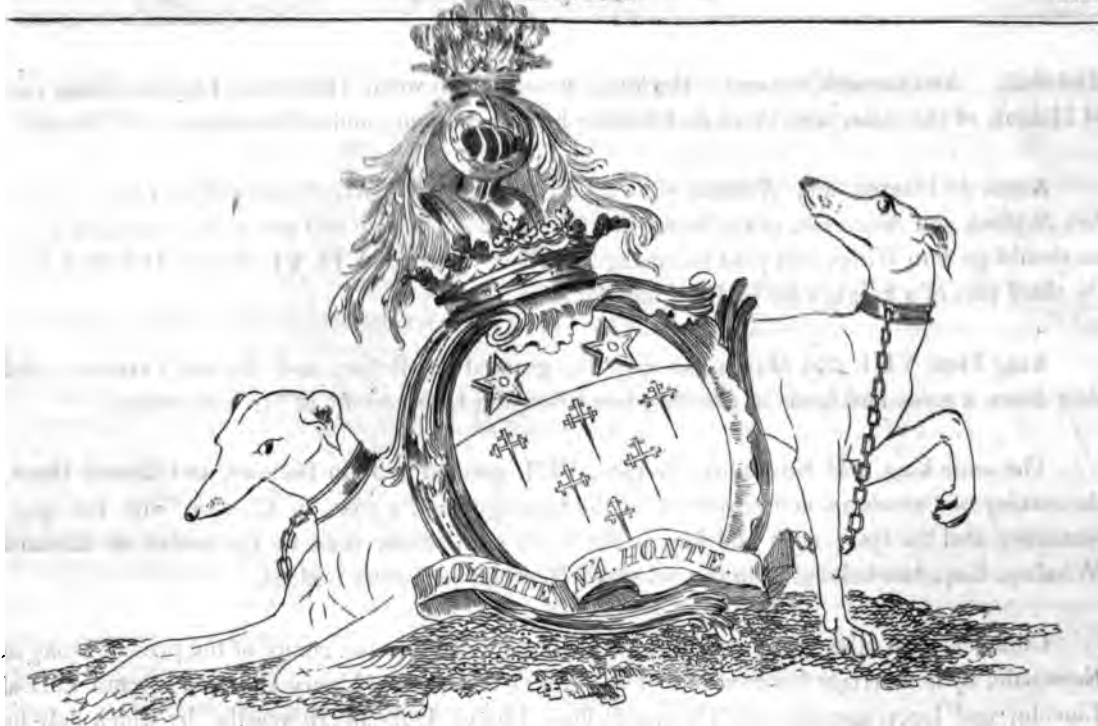
“Where all the woodland nymphs their revels play'd,  
And footed sportive rings around its shade;  
Not fifteen cubits could encompass round  
The ample trunk on consecrated ground;  
As much its height the other trees exceeds,  
As they o'ertop the grass and humbler weeds.”

“Lo! the oak that hath so long a norishing  
Fro' the time it 'ginneeth first to spring,  
And hath so long a life, as we may see,  
Yet, at the last, wasted is the tree.”

CHAUCER.

We took our leave of this venerable tree, with meditative feelings; assured, that old and “wasted” as it was, it would most probably long survive us who were in the fulness of health and vigour.

On our return, we inspected the very beautiful botanical garden, containing, I believe, every individual of the British Flora, as well as exotics, and laid out in several compartments, exhibiting at one view, the classes and orders of the Linnæan system. I must yet mention, that near this garden, stand the *Porter Oaks*, as they are called, from there having been a gate between them. The height of the one is ninety-eight feet, of the other, eighty-eight; circumference of the former at the kerf, thirty-eight feet, the latter thirty-four. To persons who are alive to the beauties of nature, especially the lovers of woodland scenery, the walk from Worksop to Welbeck will amply compensate for a summer's afternoon so appropriated.



ARMS OF CLINTON.—Argent, six cross-crosslets fitchee sable, on a chief azure, two mullets, pierced or.—SUPPORTERS, two greyhounds collared and chained, proper.—MOTTO, "Loyalty has no shame."

Henry Pelham Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle, born Jan. 30, 1786.—Georgiana Elisabeth, daughter, and sole heiress of Edward Miller Mundy, of Shipley, Esq. Married July 18, 1807.

Anna Ma. ria, born August 6, 1808, died.	Georgiana, born Mar. 18, 1810.	Henry, Lord Lin- coln, born May 23, 1811.	Charlotte, born Oct. 1, 1812.	Charles & Thomas, (twins), born Dec. 3, 1812.	William, born Jan. 13, 1815.	Edward, born Feb. 18, 1816.	Caroline Augusta, born Aug. 23, 1818.	Henrietta, born Aug. 29, 1819.	Robert, born Oct. 15, 1820.	George, born Sep. 26, 1822, lived thir- teen days. A still born twin sister.
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## Clumber.

Thoroton observes, that Clumber had three bovates of the soc of *Mausfeld*; and in *Clumber*, were two manors of Roger de Buslie's fee, which, before the conquest, Adeluvo! and Vlchil had and paid as for five bov. to the geld. The land being two car. Part of it, viz. two bov. was waste, which Fulc held. In the other, Vlchil had under Roger one car., and one mill of 12d. pasture wood, two qu. long one qu. broad. In the Confessor's time, this was 20s.;: when Dooms-day-book was made, 4s.

The woods of *Clumber* were of the sokage of *Mausfeld* and *Woodhouse*, and the bound began at *Suthones*, and extended itself by the way which was called *Kirkegate*, and led to *Wirksop*, unto the cross, which divided the fee of the king, and the fee of the lord of *Wirksop*, and the fee of

*Tickehull*. And towards the east is the king's wood, which wood Thomas de Hayton, Elias, son of Hubert, of the same, and Peter de Clumbre held of the king, and of the sokage of *Maunesfeld*.

Adam de Hayton, and William, son of Hubert, held two parts of one car. in *Lunde*, *Clumber*, *Retford*, and *Misterton*, of the honour of *Tickehull*, for a horse and sac to the constable, when he should go into *Wales*, and paid no scutage. About the time of H. VI. Robert Hekeling held the third part of a knight's fee in *Lund* and *Clumber*.

King Hen. VIII. 23d March, an. reg. 36, granted to Roger, and Robert Taverner, and their heirs, a mess. and lands in *Clumbre*, late belonging to *Newstede*, at 11s. per annum.

The same king, 22d November, 38 Hen. VIII. granted to John Bellowe, and Robert Bigot, the rectory of *Carcolstan*, and advowson of the vicarage, and a mess. in *Clumber*, with the apurtenances; and the tythe corn and hay in the fields of *Stretton*, then in the tenure of Richard Whalley, Esq., late belonging to the priory of *Worksop*,\* as before noticed.

Clumber, with other great estates in this county, came into the family of the present Duke of Newcastle, by a marriage between one of his grace's ancestors,—Henry Clinton, seventh Earl of Lincoln, and Lucy, daughter of Thomas Pelham Holles, Duke of Newcastle, by which lady he had issue, George, eighth earl of Lincoln, who succeeded at his father's death, in 1728, and was created Duke of Newcastle-under-Lyme, by patent, November 13, 1756. And,

Henry, ninth Earl, and second Duke of Newcastle-under-Lyme: He was succeeded by his second son, Thomas Pelham, Earl of Lincoln, July 1, 1752. This nobleman married in 1782, Anna Maria, daughter of William, second Earl of Harrington, by whom he had issue, Anna Maria, born 1st August, 1783, and Henry Pelham Pelham Clinton, the present duke, who was born 30th January, 1785, and who succeeded to the title May 17, 1795. His grace is Earl of Lincoln, Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, and a Knight of the Garter.

The family surname of Clinton, heretofore Earls of Lincoln, is derived from an ancestor, who came into England at the conquest, and resided on their lordship of Climpton, in Oxfordshire.

The family of Holles, Earls of Clare, from which, as before observed, this estate descended, anciently resided at their mansion of Haughton, near Tuxford, in this neighbourhood; while Clumber was, at most, only a lodge. This Haughton was bought of the Stanhopes, by Sir William Holles, an eminent merchant, and Lord Mayor of London, in the reign of Henry VIII., who, dying in 1542, left his eldest son an estate worth £10,000 per annum. This son wasted his immense fortune, and died in prison, leaving his descendants wretched. His brother William, a

\* *Thoroton*, vol. iii. p. 404.

son of the Lord Mayor, was a prudent man, and enjoyed from his father the manor of Haughton, where he resided, as well as other great estates. This gentleman lived a knight near forty years, and was a member in parliament for the county, and twice high sheriff. This "good Sir William Holles," as he was called, lived in the true old style of English hospitality. Twelve days, at Christmas, he served up a fat ox every day, with sheep, &c., in proportion. During this festival, any man was permitted to stay three days, without being asked who he was or whence he came. His retinue was answerable to his hospitality: he was at the coronation of Edward VI., with fifty followers, in blue coats and badges.

His son, dying before his father, never came to the family estate, but lived at Irby, in Lincolnshire, "where he was seen many times to confront Henry Clinton, Earl of Lincoln, who was a great tyrant amongst the gentry of that county, and carry business against him as it were in despite of his teeth." How little did he think that his blood and estates would centre in the heir of this tyrannical earl!—which, however, came to pass. The fourth, and last Earl of Clare, married the co-heiress of Henry Cavendish, second Duke of Newcastle; whereupon he became one of the richest men in the kingdom, and was, after the death of his father, in 1691, himself created duke by that title. Haughton, upon the acquisition of these estates, was probably neglected, if not already in ruins, and the duke resided at Welbeck Abbey. Afterwards, when the Holles and the Cavendish estates came to separate again, and the latter went through the Harleys to the Bentincks, a mansion probably was wanted for the former, and Clumber House, which might heretofore be only a lodge, was, by degrees, extended in magnitude and importance.

Clumber park, on its present scale of magnificence, was designed and laid out by Henry, ninth Earl of Lincoln, and second Duke of Newcastle-under-Lyme, about sixty years ago; and which, as it was originally a rabbit warren, may properly enough, in the words of Bray, be said to be a *creation* of the duke's own, as it is now a park of a dozen miles in circumference, filled with many large and thriving plantations, and having a very good house, most elegantly fitted up and furnished.

About 1776, Mr. Gilpin, of picturesque celebrity, visited this neighbourhood, but his notice of Clumber breathes only the spirit of disappointment. Says he, "We expected an old magnificent house, a park adorned with oaks, that had seen a fourth or a fifth generation of their noble owners, and the appendages of ancient grandeur. But every thing is new: the house is just built, the woods just planted, and the walks just planned. Clumber park will hardly be worth a traveller's notice before the next century." The eve of the next century brought another visitor, who has also described *his* feelings. Throsby is not a man to be named with Gilpin in matters of taste, but his testimony shall be given. "Within the park," says he, "the country opens upon you with splendour, rich in effect, and delightful to the eye. The fir and woody scenery around, in May, were warmed with patches of broom and gorse, then in golden hue, left, it may be pre-

sumed, for ornament. The hills, or rather rising grounds, are beautifully clothed with woody scenery, the lawns are as smooth, on the surface, as a calm water scene; but the solemn silence around, and the sable escutcheon, emblem of departed dignity, which came in view as we approached the dwelling, checked the roving mind in the contemplation of this rich and lovely abode. Here, and in our travel within Clumber park, for two hours, we saw not a human being; but there was enough to admire, for the walks are every where adorned with rich plantations, seated in the happiest succession. At an age, when men in general are not enamoured with a looking back on their youthful years, I could not help indulging an innocent thought, that these were the sweetest love-walks I had ever seen: here youth, beauty, and innocence might solace in a reciprocal exchange of vows and sentiments, in uninterrupted retirement, silent as the grave, except from the melody of the little warbling foresters, and the bleating at intervals of the playful lambkins."—*Throsby's Thoroton*, vol. iii. p. 405.

The contemplation of beautiful scenery, may be fairly admitted to constitute one of the purest and most extensive gratifications of the senses, as well as one of the most delightful sources of mental enjoyment. "Wouldst thou be a great poet?" says Schiller; "the plants of the field may teach thee the way: open thyself to nature, and be patient under her power." And while we allow that nature, in her wildest and sublimest scenes, is most powerfully impressive, yet it is no less certain, that, in her softer and more amiable features, the generality of mankind prefer to behold her. Art and cultivation, however they may obliterate some striking features, rarely fail to substitute, instead, a more exquisite propriety and distribution of the parts. This effect, which most persons can perceive and admire, is peculiarly characteristic of the park scenery of this county. Hardly less universal than the admiration of scenic beauty, is the admission of its effect on the mind; and therefore, without challenging for it that powerful moral influence, which several of the poets, and Wordsworth in particular, contend for, we may justly suspect that man of a nature not over-endowed with sensibilities who can deny this delightful influence. Love hath ever been anxious to court and to confess this influence of beautiful scenery; and friendship, a principle less powerful perhaps, but not less pure than the passion of love, hath sought and celebrated, with equal sincerity, the charms of the landscape.

The delight arising from the contemplation of cultivated scenery, is eminently social; and no person, of amiable feeling, can ever enter fully into the enjoyment of the charming landscape pictures in this neighbourhood, without participating, or wishing to participate, that enjoyment with another. With Cowper—

" I praise the Frenchman, his remark was shrewd—  
How sweet, how passing sweet, is solitude!  
But grant me still a friend in my retreat,  
Whom I may whisper—solitude is sweet."

It was at an age, when the susceptibilities of the heart are sometimes less blunted by the world, than at the time to which Throsby alludes, that I found myself, for the first time, in the precincts



of this delightful park, in company with some amiable and beloved individuals, of that sex, to which life is indebted for its best endearments: the young romance of feeling and of hope, indulged on that occasion, has indeed perished, but its memorial remains written on my heart and in my memory. For one other remark, I must beg the reader's indulgence, before I close this sentimental digression. When we traverse, in unrestrained freedom, the pleasure grounds of the nobility, we are too often inclined to forget, amid our independent feelings as Englishmen, how much we are indebted to their generous liberality. In society, or in solitude, I have rambled over some of the sweetest portions of this parish, but never without a feeling of gratitude towards the owners of the ground over which I passed. Indeed, I should little envy the mind of that man, who, in traversing this extensive "dukery," should suffer his pleasure to be lessened by one transient emotion of envy or discontent, from the knowledge that these immense estates were the property of four or five illustrious individuals.

The stranger who wishes to visit Clumber, from Worksop, must, if a pedestrian, take the foot-path over the common, by the wind-mill, which will be found both pleasant and commodious; but if with a carriage, then he will pursue the regular road over the Sparking hill, and along the Ollerton turnpike for about two miles, where a gate on the left admits him into a lane of deep and almost impassable sand, bordered with bracken and ling, and thriving larches, and leading directly to the old lodge, which is about two miles from the house. Having obtained admission at the gate, and proceeded down a long avenue of plantation trees, he enters the open park, a large tract, swelling into very gentle undulations, and planted with thriving clumps, or more extensive sylvan embellishments; withal, retaining many traces of its ancient character, in the patches of heath, fern, and "yellow-blossom'd furze," which are suffered to remain.\*

In consequence of the number of cross-roads which intersect the park in various directions,† the visitor will appreciate the utility of *guide-posts*, placed at convenient distances; and without

\* Thoresby, in mentioning these indigenous productions of the ancient forest, has fallen into a slight mistake about their re-production. "Before it was so much enclosed," says he, p. 405, *note*, "the people used to burn acres together, (of ling and broom,) and plant fresh, to be eaten young, as food for sheep." Plantations of ling and broom, and those for an edible crop, would be a novelty in agriculture. The fact is, in autumn, they burnt the old shrubs, which, so far from being destroyed by the process, shot up in the spring, green and tender, from the roots, and so afforded the browsing alluded to.

† THORESBY.—Immediately adjacent to Clumber, on the south-east side of the park, lies the domain of Thoresby, thirteen or fourteen miles in circumference, and surrounding the residence of Earl Manvers. This place will well repay the expense of a visit; for, although the mansion is, as Bray observes, "rather a comfortable (brick) house, than a magnificent seat," yet the sylvan character of the home grounds, is on the most interesting scale; and, for a course of nearly two

miles, after entering Thoresby park from Clumber, it has been remarked, that the visitor may almost fancy himself rambling amidst Transatlantic forests.

It is a little remarkable, that two ducal mansions, within half a dozen miles of each other, in this county, should have perished by fire, with a period of less than twenty years intervening. Thoresby was laid in ashes, April 4, 1745, by a calamity similar to that which destroyed Worksop Manor in 1761. The present edifice was built by the then Duke of Kingston.

CARBERTON.—In the girdle of Clumber park, on the western side, stands Carberton Hall and chapel: the latter, belonging to Edwinstow, is an ancient rustic edifice, which, with its little green grave-yard, and dove-cote-looking belfry, harmonizes admirably with the quiet seclusion of its situation. The hall is a substantial mansion of the last century, and was, at the period of my visit, inhabited by a respectable yeoman, to whose hospitality myself and friends were materially indebted.

which it would not be very easy to find the house, which, from its low situation, is not to be seen at a distance. This circumstance, though it diminishes somewhat from the first impression, which so magnificent a building is calculated to make, is forgotten in the general admiration of the house, which is built of a fine white stone, from a quarry on the estate, about five miles off. The rooms are large and commodious, most elegantly fitted up and furnished, and not unworthy the presence and approbation of royalty, with which they have been honoured. The north front opens into a large green court, with the offices to the left. Instead, however, of entering this area, the visitor will go forward a little to the right, when he will find himself opposite to the east façade of the building, and will have, at the same time, a pleasing view of the inferior portion of the lake, and also of the bridge, a piece of most superb architecture, and a fine object from this point. A few paces brings him in sight of the south, or principal front, when not only the *coup d'oeil* of the building, but the magnificent expanse of water, with the charming park scenery beyond, and about it, burst together upon the sight. The water scene, than which a finer object can hardly be conceived, is formed by an expansion of the Idle, which river flows through the park from Carberton, and which stream, if it originally produced a swamp amid the surrounding trees, may lead to the etymology of the present application from *Elom Retinacula, vincula*: and *Ωερε, Palus*, vel *lacus*. Besides the appropriate decorations of its banks, and the great number of swans which may be seen on its bosom; the lake exhibits a handsome frigate, called the "Lincoln," in honour of the heir-apparent; the "Clumber yacht," and other craft. The larger vessel has been most elegantly and expensively fitted up, and presents, when fully rigged, a pleasing adjunct to the imposing effect of Clumber park scenery. On gala days, when the season, the weather, and circumstances conspire, the whole scene appears like a picture of enchantment—an Arcadian landscape, where

" Some rural deity,  
Presiding, scatters o'er the unequal lawns,  
In beauteous wildness, yon fair spreading trees,  
And mingling woods and water, hills and dales,  
And herds and bleating flocks, domestic fowl,  
And those that swim the lake, sees rising round  
More pleasing landscapes than in Tempe's vale  
Peneus watered."

Alas! these gala days have been few of late; and although, at the period of my last visit, no

ed for a substantial addition to the comforts of a day most delightfully spent in the vicinity.

**BUDBY.**—About two miles beyond Carburton, on the Ollerton road, lies the village of Budby, which is mentioned here, for the sake of those who may admire a village without, rusticity. All the houses here resemble the tradesmen's cottages in the neighbourhood of London, having a smart, trim, fashionable appearance, as if they had just dropped from Ackerman's Magazine, or were designed as the pattern-card specimens of some fashionable architect. There is likewise a tall *May-pole*, evidently the quondam-mast of some Gainsborough

trader; but as we did not happen to be here on "the merry morn of May," we cannot tell how it is annually dressed, nor what festivals take place on the village green where it stands.

To the conservation of that *keeping* of the ancient forest, denominated Rumwood, there used to be appointed one forester on foot, and two woodwards, one at Carburton, and the other at Budby; also two verdurers, and two agisters; and that the chief keeper ought to have a page, bearing his bow, through all the forest, to gather *chiminage*—*chiminagium*, or way-money, a term well known in the forest law, and signifying a fee, collected for the making and repairing of roads.

sable escutcheon waved in the wind, and instead of the solitude which Throsby mentions, the duke, with his ten lovely children, were enjoying domestic happiness on the spot; yet, I could not forget the fatality which had so recently desolated the family, and made Clumber lodge a house of mourning. In June, 1822, Anna Maria, the eldest daughter and child, died in London, aged fourteen years, the duchess being at this time near the period of her confinement, at Clumber. On the 25th of September, her grace was delivered of twins, male and female, the latter still-born—on the next day she expired. The male child was baptized George, and lived thirteen days, dying the day before the interment of the duchess, the lady Anna Maria, and the still-born infant, in Bothamsell church, Oct. 1, 1822.\* Thus had the noble duke to lament the loss of his lady, and three children, in the short space of five months!

Hardwick.

(*Неро. Herd. or Hind, and yic. a village.*) which may be considered as a hamlet, is situated below the lake in Clumber park, and is a sort of colony of workmen employed by the duke about the house and on the estate. They mostly attend Divine service with the noble family in the chapel attached to the mansion, and with the servants and others, constitute a regular congregation of about one hundred persons.

I have now brought to a close, these memoirs of the Town and Parish of Worksop; and, however feebly, imperfectly, or inaccurately, I may have executed the task, it is not without peculiar feelings that I take my final leave of a work, which has connected me by so many delightful recollections and associations with the neighbourhood which I have attempted to celebrate; and, before laying down my pen, and leaving this volume to its fate, may I be allowed to add, that though parting, perhaps for ever, from scenes and circumstances which intercourse has rendered familiar, I shall never regret that I have laboured for the honour, nor hear, without rejoicing, of the happiness and prosperity of the inhabitants of Worksop. The following lines may not inappropriately conclude these pages. I copy them (if the reader cares to be informed,) from the autograph, pencilled on the mantle-piece of my little lodging-room in Bridge-street.

*Worksop!* I leave, but not without regret,  
My generous friends, and thy delightful scenes;  
For who could walk along yon bowery lanes,  
Through the green park pursue his devious path,  
Or gaze upon those objects manifold,  
Which, like a girdle, bound this pleasant town,  
Without emotion,—yea, and rapture too?

\* This interment is understood only to be temporary, and that they are, on the completion of a family vault, in the handsome church, in course of erection, at East Markham, to be removed thither.

The vernal season here, comes lovely on,  
Scattering its sweetest, delicatest flowers ;  
And summer seems to pour o'er all things here,  
A warmer, brighter, more redtundant glory :  
While autumn, with his rich and mingling tints,  
No fairer sylvan landscape e'er adorns :  
Here winter too, comes in his wildest mood,  
His loud harp ringing through the ancient trees.

There may be those, to whom all Nature's charms,  
All sounds, all colours, motions, and fair forms,  
Are but as the vague shifting of light clouds  
Along a summer sky. I would not be,  
For all earth's honour, and all India's wealth,  
That cold insensate thing—no, I do love,  
E'en to the ardency of strange devotion,  
Whatever God hath made to deck the earth ;  
And I do love it more transcendently,  
When by the sweet community of friendship  
Partaken and endeared. To you, kind friends,  
Who have endear'd so much these scenes around,  
What kind return, what just acknowledgment,  
Should gratitude indite ? I can but pray—  
Yea, is my prayer most ardent and sincere,  
That all heaven's blessings may on you and yours  
Perpetually descend ; that God may give  
All that in this world tends to happiness,  
All that conducts to glory in the next !  
Farewell, kind friends ! and scenes endear'd, farewell !  
When I am far away—when we have parted,  
Perhaps, for ever. When these pleasing visits  
Shall be as golden spots in memory's map ;  
O then may some one, though to me unknown,  
Enjoy the happiness—deserve it more,  
And his sincerer gratitude record.

# INDEX.

ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.—Page 9, line 35—In favour of the presumption, that the Romans may have abode in the neighbourhood of Worksop, may be added, that, about twenty-four years ago, a ploughman turned up an earthen vessel, containing ninety-one imperial coins, in a field a little beyond Osberton. A stranger may find the spot, by entering the Ollerton turnpike, at the bottom of the "Three Mile Lane," from Worksop, and where it separates to the right from the Retford road; passing about 100 yards along the turnpike, an avenue-path, through a plantation, leads him immediately into the field, at the top of which stands a pillar, thus inscribed:—"In December, 1802, 62 copper, and 29 silver Roman coins were found here." The pieces are in the possession of the Rev. G. Mason, of Cuckney, the owner of the property.

Page 64, line 3—For *Contd.* read *land*.

Page 101, line 15—These niches probably held the figures bearing the cognizances, mentioned by Dodsworth, which are not, as stated in the text, borne by the existing statues: in fact, one of the latter still supports a sort of bust, while the hands of the other, with whatever they may have held, are demolished.

Page 83—Since the preceding account of the Priory was printed, (Part 28,) of the *Monasticon Anglicanum*, by M<sup>rs</sup>. Caley, Ellis, and Bandinell, has been published, containing several of the Augustine houses, with Worksop, inclusive. By the friendship of W. Bateman, of Middleton Hall, county Derby, Esq., this superb compilation lies before me: while I regret that these indefatigable editors of Dugdale should have contented themselves, in their notice of the present state of Worksop, with the substance of about a dozen lines, from "The Beauties of England and Wales," published twelve years ago; I am, on the other hand, glad to find, that my account contains no very material omissions or differences from their authorities. They have, however, given "COMPUTUS MINISTERIORUM DOMINI REGIS temp. HEN. VIII.," being an abstract of Roll, 32 Hen. VIII., Augmentation Office, and containing, as well as the preceding statements, references to some property and valuations, not before noted, which may be particularized as follows:—

## NUMER PRIORATUS DE WORKSOP.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<i>Ayckrynge</i> Reddit' assis',.....	0	0	10	<i>Harthill</i> Prat',.....	0	8	0
<i>Newall</i> Do. ....	0	5	0	<i>Whyton</i> Diversa Ten'ta,.....	1	3	0
<i>Rotherham</i> Do. ....	0	6	8	<i>Todayke</i> a kylvn-house cum Terr',.....	0	13	4
<i>Donnyngton</i> Do. ....	0	14	0	<i>Shiresbruck et Whitwell</i> Ten' et Terr',.....	0	5	6
<i>Todayke</i> Do. ....	1	5	0	<i>Whitwell</i> Un' Ten',.....	0	10	6
<i>Swynnton cum Osgarbye</i> Do.....	0	0	8	<i>Bothenstake</i> Prat',.....	0	1	6
<i>Shirebruke</i> Do. ....	0	6	8	<i>South Leverton</i> Un' Ten',.....	0	6	0
<i>Whelley</i> Terr',.....	0	2	8	<i>Sturton</i> Do. ....	0	16	0
<i>Matterley</i> Un' ten',.....	0	4	0	<i>Doncaster</i> Terr',.....	0	8	4
<i>Sturton</i> Un' toft',.....	0	2	0	<i>Thorp Salvin</i> Do..	0	6	0
<i>Pryor Greve</i> Terr',.....	0	6	8	<i>Swinton cum Osgarbye</i> Terr' et ten',.....	1	6	8
<i>Houghton</i> Terr' prat' et pastur',.....	0	7	0	<i>Bleygh Firma</i> grang',.....	3	0	0
<i>Auston</i> (qu. Anston?) Terr',.....	0	0	8	<i>Brassbrige</i> Un' mess',.....	0	13	4

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